

THE ATHENÆUM.

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GENERAL CORRESPONDENCE.

For the Athenæum.

NO EXCEPTIONS TO MORAL RULES.

"THERE is no rule without an exception," says a common adage, which, as an admitted truth, we perpetually hear cited by those who do not choose to be bound by some inconvenient injunction, the general obligation of which they cannot dispute. The virtue of this maxim in setting men free from moral restraints is as great as that of the word *if* in preventing quarrels; for by always putting his own case among the exceptions, a man may follow wherever his interest or inclination leads, in the face of every received rule that can be quoted against him. I humbly conceive, however, that there are rules without any exception whatever; and that in regulating our conduct it is of the highest importance to know and acknowledge them. I do not allude to prudential maxims, which, perhaps, are never of that absolute obligation—even the great Hoyle's rules of whist must give way to peculiar circumstances—but I mean moral rules, determining our social duties, public and private, and founded on the immutable laws of justice.

I was lately somewhat surprized at seeing, in a free and acute disquisition on the conduct of Government in the Copenhagen business, the concession made, that if the seizure of the Danish ships was absolutely essential to our safety, why—"salus populi suprema lex"—the injustice of it must be passed over. But I would ask whether the *safety of England* would be acknowledged the *supreme law* by Denmark; and whether she would not have a good right to complain, were her safety sacrificed to that of any other nation? Now, I presume, there cannot be two contrary rights in the same case; and that even the law (as it is termed) of self-preservation, will not justify the inflicting upon another the evil we are desirous of averting from ourselves. A shipwrecked sailor is fairly mounted on a plank which will support only one—a drowning comrade pulls him off, sends him to the

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bottom, and takes his place. That many sailors would do so, I make no question; but shall we so far prostitute the sacred rule of justice—that of doing as we would be done unto—as to allow an exception in this case, and that, merely because the stake on both sides is the dearest possible? If moral principles are not to guard the most important rights, of what use are they? Probably no nation was ever in fact saved from destruction by an act of injustice, though their apparent prosperity may have been promoted by such an act. Old Cato might be under the influence of an alarm when he was continually sounding in the ears of the senators “*delenda est Carthago*,” but it was ambition and cupidity that at length urged the Romans to that nefarious measure.

A political exception to the rule of right is by Euripides put into the mouth of Eteocles, and is said to have been a favourite quotation of Julius Cæsar—“If injustice is to be committed, let it be for the sake of reigning; in other things observe justice:” upon which Cicero rightly exclaims against the villainy of excepting from prohibition the greatest of all crimes. Why should the meaner man observe rules from which the greater exempts himself, when the former has often a necessity to plead, from which the latter is free? If it was a good answer from the magistrate to a libeller who said, “You know, Sir, I must live,”—“I do not see the necessity of it,” surely it might with more justice be replied to an Eteocles or a Cæsar, “I see no reason why you should be a king.” Themistocles, who covered personal ambition under the mask of patriotism, thought it expedient that Athens should not only be a considerable naval power, but the only one in Greece; and therefore projected to burn all the other ships of the united Grecian fleet. But Aristides, to whom the project was confided, having reported to the Athenian people, that nothing could be more advantageous, but nothing more unjust, than his proposal, to their honour, they rejected it without hesitation. It were to be wished that christian assemblies had always determined as honourably!

I have often thought that there was a striking incongruity in the two lines which form the burden of our famous national song:

Rule, Britannia, rule the waves;
Britons never will be slaves:

as if it were necessary to be a tyrant, not to be a slave!—for every domination maintained by force is a tyranny; and what law is there in the code of nations that permits one people to be rulers of the sea more than another? The author of these lines, Thomson, has more distinctly expressed the same sentiment in his poem of “*Liberty*!”

The winds and waves are Britain's wide domain,
And not a sail, but by permission, spreads:

This is, indeed, prospective of what Britain, in poetic vision, is destined to become; yet there are writers in plain prose who inculcate the

the same ideas. It is strange that we can accustom ourselves so inconsiderately to use a language that we should instantly condemn in the mouth of a foreigner; and that, too, at a time when we are professedly contending to preserve all Europe from a similar claim exercised by land. I fear, our vaunting talk of "the empire of the main" has given too plausible a pretext for a general maritime league against us. To be the bulwark of equal rights by a preponderating power on our natural element is truly glorious; but to employ it in setting ourselves above the obligation of those rights, is neither safe nor honest. When the law of justice is abrogated, no other, in effect, remains than the law of force; and where is the nation that may confide so much in present strength as to be willing to submit to the future decisions of this law?

To the rules of morality, properly understood, there are *no exceptions*. I say, properly understood; for there may be verbal ambiguities in the enunciation of them, that render it necessary to consider the spirit rather than the letter. Thus, if the injunction, "Thou shalt not kill," be understood literally as forbidding all privation of life, it will exclude not only the right of self-defence, but all capital punishments; which certainly could not be the intention of a legislator whose code enjoins putting to death in numerous cases, even without form of trial. It must, therefore, be understood to forbid the act which we distinguish by the name of *murder*, or the malicious and unauthorised taking away of life through motives of revenge, or some other selfish passion. Casuists have also laboured to establish exceptions with respect to other duties; as that of speaking truth; but in all admissible instances of this kind, the exception is grounded upon some interfering and superior duty; and the genuine moral purpose of promoting the greatest good of society remains inviolate. Such casuistry, however, is dangerous, since it finally leads to the setting up of our own opinion of particular utility, in opposition to general maxims recognized by the common consent of mankind.

Of all the reasoners who have attempted to subvert morality by exceptions to its plainest and most universal rules, none in modern ages have equalled the Roman catholic casuists, and especially those of the order of Jesuits, whose infamy in this point was the principal cause of their destruction. Their motive has been chiefly the advantage they derived from this laxity in the quality of confessors; and the temptation thus to compromise the most sacred obligations for the purpose of conciliating a penitent, is one of the strongest arguments against the practice of confession. Their great engine, as disclosed in the admirable Provincial Letters, was the method of *directing the intention*, that is, of explaining away the criminality of a manifestly bad action, by ascribing it to some good or indifferent motive. Thus, being fully sensible that men of the world could never, in cases where honour was concerned, be brought to renounce its dictates for those of the gospel, they used the following mode of reasoning to conciliate them. —Revenge is, doubtless, absolutely prohibited by the divine law, and

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can in no case be indulged; but a regard to reputation is not only allowable, but laudable: if, therefore, there is no other way of preserving reputation in society than by putting to death the person who has given an affront, it may be done, provided the intention be strictly directed to this sole purpose, and not to that of revenging an injury. Upon this principle some of their casuists (especially of the Spanish and Italian nations) permitted not only duels, but assassinations; remarking, that the last have the advantage of not exposing an antagonist to commit the sin of fighting in a bad cause. By a similar process they explained away the guilt of other immoral actions, so as finally to exempt from the charge of sin almost every thing which is not done for the express purpose of sinning—and he must indeed be a hardened sinner who commits a crime for the sake of the guilt rather than of the pleasure. It was wanting, as Pascal observes, to the practical perfection of this system, that the magistrates could not be induced to regard these deviations from common rules with the same indulgence that the good fathers did, but persisted in hanging thieves and assassins without enquiring into their *intentions*.

When a person studies for an exception to a moral rule because he wishes to find one, he may be assured that he will meet with none to his purpose, if conscience be to decide upon its validity. He had better at once confess, with the poet, "I see and approve the right and follow the wrong," than attempt to delude himself and others by confounding right and wrong; as it is a less evil that one crime should be committed, than that an indefinite number should be justified. When "Ratio ultima Regum" was inscribed upon a piece of cannon, it was an honest declaration that royal logic had nothing to do with the reasoning of the schools; and there was, at least, no sophism in this method of confuting an antagonist. So, when Louis XIV. on one occasion, when urged with the example of other sovereigns in a matter of national right, said, "it was for him to set examples, not to follow them," he gave fair warning of the principles upon which he meant to act. It is this barefaced avowal of injustice that has made the "Prince" of Machiavel so much less mischievous than its detestable maxims would lead the reader to expect, since no sovereign who wished to support the least credit for honesty and honour would refer to them as authority. But when, in the face of the world, the most flagitious actions are justified by those who have in their mouths nothing but the cant of national honour and universal philanthropy, and who, by way of exception, maintain the lawfulness of violating the plainest rules of justice and good faith whenever an assumed necessity can be pleaded—then it is that the foundations of social morality are undermined, and every edifice raised upon them totters to its fall.

N. N.

EXTRACTS FROM A MANUSCRIPT JOURNAL OF A VOYAGE
IN THE MEDITERRANEAN AND ADRIATIC.

(Continued.)

The island of Corfu may be called mountainous; but there are many beautiful plains in it, and the air is salubrious. It is separated from the main land by a channel above ten miles wide in the broadest part, but the points of the island stretch very considerably towards the coast of Albania at the two entrances of the Straits, especially that to the north. The harbour has this advantage, that ships can always get out from whatever point the wind may blow; however, the south passage is the safest, as mariners have only to avoid a bank which runs out half way across the entrance from the south point of the island; whereas, in the northern passage, which is narrow, there are some sunken rocks in the very middle of it.

The harbour of Corfu is situated near the middle of the channel: it is extremely secure, and can contain all the navies of Europe, if we include the whole bay under this appellation. The anchorage ground is so firm that the anchors must be taken up every fortnight or three weeks, or these would, in all probability, be permanently fixed. But further details of this kind I will leave to navigators: let us return once more to land.

There is no river in the whole island, unless we call a small current such out of deference to Homer, who sent Nausicaa and her bright damsels "to wash their fair garments in its limpid stream." There are a few torrents, also, which occasionally flow from the hills.

Corfu is divided into four parts. These are called *Balie*, or governments: the first, named *Leschimo*, towards the east; the second, *Laghiros*, to the west; the third, *Mezzo*; and the fourth, *Loros*.

The territory of *Leschimo* was formerly pretty considerable, as appears from the ancient episcopal city of *Guardichi*, distant about two miles from the sea, but now only a miserable village. There may be about twenty-five villages in this district, and about 12,000 souls.

The territory of *Laghiros* furnishes in greatest abundance the necessities of life; it contains about 10,000 inhabitants and twenty villages. There was formerly a city here, built on a peninsula on the spot where there is now a convent dedicated to the Virgin. This city was destroyed by the Africans. The middle district, or that of *Mezzo*, is the most considerable, on account of the city of Corfu. This comprehends thirty villages besides, and above 30,000 inhabitants. *Loros* contains about 15,000 inhabitants, distributed in twenty villages, and the city of *Cassopo*, formerly so celebrated under the name of *Cassiope*. Cicero, in one of his epistles, says, that having departed from the port of Corcyra, he arrived the next day at Cassiope, a distance of 120 stadia, which sufficiently agrees with the position of the modern *Cassopo*.

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Opposite, and distant about a mile from the city of Corfu, is the little island of *Vido*. Here are some batteries to defend the anchorage of the shipping. From this island we have several most interesting views of the city and adjacent country. About three miles to the west of *Vido* is another small island, on which they have built a lazaret and some magazines. Nearly opposite to this, and at the distance of a mile, is the port of Govin, where the Venetians used to anchor their galleys. It is a bason of very deep water, running into the land by a narrow entrance. By sinking two large hulks, and constructing other works, the Venetians rendered it capable of receiving the largest men of war, and a line of battle ship can now lie with her broadside close to the beach to discharge her stores or undergo a repair. Here the Venetians had also a naval arsenal, and other public offices, now entirely in ruins. This little harbour is so extremely beautiful, that I dare not attempt to describe it: were I called upon to delineate the sketch of a port for an opera-scene, it is the very spot I should point out for the purpose. But, notwithstanding the beauty of the situation, it is the most unhealthy place in the whole island. At present the houses are all desolate, for such has been the frequency of remittent fevers here, that it is hardly safe to sleep in the neighbourhood. I am inclined to think, however, that this may be attributed to the desertion of the place; for, since it has been abandoned as a naval *depôt*, the harbour has been neglected, and a tract of low land adjoining, which appears to have been covered with water, is now left a mere swamp.

Before I proceed to give an account of the city of Corfu, I will first notice some peculiarities in the religious ceremonies of the Greeks. St. Spiridion is the tutelar saint of this island, of whom I know nothing more than this, that he was brought here from the Morea by a family whose descendants are still in being, enjoying very considerable privileges, and a large revenue from the annual donations which are made by all ranks of people at his shrine. His skeleton is adorned with a profusion of precious stones, and, what is infinitely more tantalizing, his bones are daily pressed by some of the loveliest lips in Corfu. Passion-week is always a time of much importance here; the most rigid abstemiousness in their eating, and preparations for the grand ceremonies of the season, occupying the entire thoughts of the inhabitants. On Holy Thursday, as I was strolling through the town, I accidentally saw a prodigious crowd of people in one of the streets. The bishop of Corfu was, in this instance, the spectacle. On a public scaffold erected for the occasion, he was performing the ceremony of washing the feet of twelve of his priests, in imitation of our Saviour, who did this office to his twelve apostles. This picture of humility, as you may well imagine, was truly original, though intended as a copy. The following day (Good Friday) I also witnessed a grand nocturnal procession, to commemorate the crucifixion. The streets were all lighted. The bishop and counsellors of state supported what represented the body of Christ for interment, followed by the whole senate

senate and mob of Corfu, carrying torches or wax-tapers. The wind being rather high, it was amusing to see the zealous efforts they made to carry their lights unextinguished. Some military music preceded the procession, and, as I thought, very preposterously, played some of the liveliest tunes I ever heard. What this would have ended in I know not, for a tremendous shower of rain put an end to the solemnity and dispersed the multitude in all directions. Some of the superstitions of the Greeks are evidently derived from the Jews, of which the following is an example: On Easter-eve every householder tied a lamb at his threshold, which he sacrificed at noon by a public signal. What rendered this scene peculiarly disgusting was, the savage ferocity with which they endeavoured to strip the poor animals of their skin, even before the last spark of life had ceased to animate them. With the blood thus spilt each person marks his door-post with the sign of the cross; and on the morrow, with the flesh of the lambs, they keep their paschal feast, when all their dismal superstition gives place to the utmost festivity.

Among the singular customs of the day, is that of every man saluting his friend or acquaintance with a kiss, at the same time remarking, "Christ is risen from the dead!" whilst they present each other with a large boiled egg, variously coloured according to the fancy of the donor. I could never discover the wit of presenting each other a *boiled egg*—the kiss, I suppose, implies nothing more than mutual congratulation. As the same customs prevail among the Russians, the soldiers and sailors had liberty this day to get drunk and kiss each other at pleasure. Indeed for the last two days the town has exhibited a sad scene of drunkenness and riot; but the esplanade has, during this time, been the theatre of much more refined amusements; for groups of Grecian peasants, dancing to their national instruments, half recalled to mind the gaiety of their polished ancestors. Many of them indulged in the most extravagant and fantastic attitudes, which, though often ridiculous, were by no means devoid of gracefulness.

The city of Corfu is situated upon a kind of promontory or tongue of land running into the channel, consequently two sides of the town are washed by the sea. Besides other extensive fortifications, it is defended by two citadels called the *old* and the *new*; the former, which may truly be said to be impregnable, is built upon a rock (at the point of the promontory) surrounded by the sea, except on the side next the city, from which, however, it is separated by a deep ditch communicating on both sides with the water, and covered by two good bastions with their *courtine*. This rock rises in the center into two points of considerable elevation, from which we have a most enchanting prospect. These the Italians, in the warmth of their imagination, have denominated "*le mamme di Corfu*." In the old citadel are the senate-house, the court of justice, the offices of government, the arsenals, the magazines, and barracks for the troops. During the splendour of the Venetian government all these buildings were, no doubt, sufficiently magnificent; but at present they are falling rapidly into decay,

decay, being equally neglected both by the Corfiots and Russians. A fine statue of the Duc de Schomberg, who defended this city from the furious attack of the Turks in 1716, is now the only ornament worthy of regard in the place.

The *Esplanade* is the grand parade of the city, extending half a mile in length and three or four hundred yards broad, in front of the bastions of the citadel. The extensive views which this commands towards each entrance of the straits, render it a charming *promenade*, and consequently the place of resort to all the officers and other idlers of the garrison. The outworks of the city on the land side extend a considerable way into the country. These are covered by two capital forts, one on Mount St. Marc, and the other on Mount Abraham: a small fort, erected between these, connects them, and thus a chain of fortifications extends along the base of the promontory, flanked on each side by the sea. A more minute detail, I conceive, would not only be unnecessary but tedious: it is enough to add, that Corfu is one of the strongest places in Europe, and in the rank of fortresses may justly be classed next to Malta and Gibraltar. The interior of the city contains nothing very remarkable; the streets are narrow, and the houses, and every other building except the churches, indicate in their present appearance that they have already seen their best days. The theatre is very good and tolerably elegant. It was originally built for an academy of sciences, but the Corfiots thinking they had more need of amusement than of learning, wisely resolved to convert it to a theatre for the performance of Italian operas and *ballets*. The *corps* of singers and dancers which they have here is really very respectable. The house is well supported by the "Nobles" of the place, who have all their private boxes, as it is customary to visit each other in the theatre with as much punctuality as our "fashionables" in England leave their cards and compliments. Many, indeed, have their boxes fitted with anti-chambers, where they can sit down to "Pharoah," and enjoy at the same time the "charming bravuras" of the "prima donna." There are no other public places of amusement in Corfu, unless we include under this head billiard tables, and the *Cassini*, or gaming-houses, which are frequented both by the natives and Russians with an avidity of which in England we can form no adequate conception. For my part, united with a few friends who form our social circle, I have seldom to complain of *ennui*; and even when we *do* find our time hang heavy, we have only to take a ride into a country, the beauty of which, as well as its fertility, might render it proverbial. It is true, we have not the varied and majestic prospects so conspicuous in England: *here* there is considerable sameness; yet in some parts of the interior the island bears a more rugged aspect; and upon the hills the lofty cypresses, contrasting their sombre green with the light shade of the olive, exhibit a pleasing variety in the landscape, whilst here and there we see the *Arbutus*, covered with its scarlet berries, rising amidst thickets of the myrtle. But, romantic as the country may be, I confess the appearance of the peasants and their habitations is by no means

means *classical*: the women, indeed, we often see plaiting and adorning their fine hair with the utmost nicety; but as they have little else that is truly Grecian in their appearance, a man may look at them without much emotion.

The cursory knowledge I have of the Corfiots does not enable me to speak decidedly of their national character; though, from what I have seen of these and the Greeks of the neighbouring islands, I may remark, that they appear chearful in disposition, fond of festivity, yet inclined to industry; in their eating and drinking, abstemious, and still retain something striking and noble in their personal appearance. If, so far, they bear any resemblance to their ancestors, we can trace it no further; for the wisdom, courage, talents, and love of pomp, so remarkable in their forefathers, appears now to be converted into sordid cunning, treachery, ignorance, and the grossest superstition.

(To be continued.)

VERBAL REMARKS.

To the Editor of the *Athenæum*.

Sir,

YOUR ingenious synonymical correspondent having apparently intermitted his learned contributions, I am induced to offer for your acceptance a few remarks upon some words to which, perhaps, at the present juncture a more than usual interest is attached. These are, *Reform*, *Amendment*, *Amelioration*, *Improvement*, *Alteration*, and some others of like import.

The words *Reformation* and *Reform* have, indeed, already been considered by your correspondent (*Athenæum*, No. 10) and from etymology he has affixed to them the sense of *forming again*. This is, doubtless, the signification of their Latin original; but, I think, with the added meaning, that the re-formation should be into the form under which the thing first appeared. Thus Ovid, speaking of Iolaus as miraculously restored to youth, calls him "primos reformatus in annos;" and in the same poet, Proteus, directing Peleus how to manage Thetis, bids him hold her fast in all her transformations "dum quod fuit ante reformet." Nearly similar is the sense in which Pliny (*Paneg. Traj.*) speaks of "*reforming* manners corrupted and depraved by long custom;" for he alludes to a supposed purity of ancient manners restored by the prince whom he celebrates. But in adhering to this meaning of "forming again," your correspondent has fallen into an inadvertence when he speaks of "the reformation of Popery by Luther," since it was not *popery* but *christianity*, which he proposed to revivè in its original form.

Johnson in his Dictionary assigns to the words *reform* and *reformation* the simple signification of "change from worse to better;" thus

making them perfectly synonymous with *amendment*, or *amelioration* (*bettering*). But it is an injury to language to sink particular and restricted senses in lax and general ones; and in this case it is politically important that the strict etymological meaning should be preserved. A *reform* of parliament, for example, is a favourite object with zealous patriots, who profess to understand by it not an *alteration* in the constitution of the English parliament, but a recurrence to its original principles, and a removal of those abuses which length of time and change of circumstances have introduced. Possibly some of them may go so far as to wish *improvements* upon the ancient plan; but they are doubtless all sensible of the danger of *innovation*, and in general aim at no more than a thorough *redintegration*. In the religious *Reformation* so called by way of eminence, it is obvious that the notion of amendment, or change for the better, could not be admitted with reference to primitive christianity by the reformers, who rejected with indignation the calumnious charge of being innovators, and justly retorted it upon their popish adversaries.

As words have a great influence in directing opinions, it is important in proposing any public measure strictly to adhere to those which express all that is intended, and nothing more. To a *reform*, in its proper sense, no one who acknowledges the existence of abuses can reasonably object; since it is only abrogating such changes as have already produced an alteration; and is, indeed, the very reverse of innovation. "Change from worse to better," though desirable when that better is ascertained, is an indefinite thing, about which there may be much difference of opinion; but to restore to its pristine state an approved institution which had been altered and deformed by corruption, is a specific amendment, concerning which there can be no other doubt than as to the best means of carrying it into effect.

I conclude with observing, that to speak, as is commonly done, of *reforming abuses*, is a gross impropriety of language, since it is not the abuse which is the subject of reformation, but the thing in which it existed. Bribery is an abuse in the election of representatives: *remove the abuse*, and the *election is reformed*.

Yours, &c. CRITO.

SECOND LETTER ON FEMALE MANNERS.

To the Editor of the Athenæum.

Sir,

I AM afraid you have forgot me as a correspondent; but as you had the kindness to insert my former letter on the same subject with that which I now sit down to write, I entreat you to give it a place in your very useful and elegant publication.

I could have wished with all my heart that the detestable subject was exhausted, and that there was no longer occasion to speak or write about

about it. But since my former letter, there have been many sad and deplorable instances of shameful conduct in some of my sex, from whom better things might have been expected. I must, however, acknowledge, that the rage for music seems to be much abated, for I have not lately seen a single example of any young lady being brought forward in any party to shew her skill in fingering the *piano forte* or the harp, or the tuneful excellence of her voice, or how much she had profited by this or that eminent master: nor has there ever been sought an opportunity of shewing the familiarity between so docile a scholar and such a celebrated master, who was proud of the sublime genius and elegant taste of so superior a young lady. Common terms and phrases, it may be observed, do not suit, or are inadequate to express, the refined sensations excited by music.

Something, however, remains to be said on the subject of music; for, from one or more late occurrences, it seems that the fatal intimacy is not confined to the young and thoughtless scholar, but the matron of the family has been caught in the same net, and stung by the same poisonous animal. Can any reasonable person think it proper or necessary for the mother of children, the mistress of a family, or the wife of a husband of any sense or judgment, to be taking lessons in music, or learning the fashionable step in dancing. Every married woman may certainly employ her time to much greater advantage than by dedicating herself to such frivolous pursuits, there being full occupation for her in learning how to conduct her family and to regulate her servants. But a short time ago all things seem to have been thought of little consequence compared with music, which may, indeed, be suspected to have given that meretricious air and manner to many of our fashionable young women, and to have produced that nauseous familiarity among people, many of them very unworthy, who are, or pretend to be, rapturously fond of music.

A beautiful young lady, lately married, was playing on some instrument in a room-full of company, and her husband was present. All in the room were loud in their expressions of approbation, and at that moment I saw with my own eyes a gentleman, under the pretence of looking close to the notes, stoop down and put his cheek to her's. It was not generally observed, and I was quite shocked, till the lady withdrew from him with proper dignity, and shewed by her subsequent behaviour that she was sensible of the insult offered to her.

In my former letter I hinted the impropriety of married women receiving visits from young men, or, indeed, any men, in the absence of their husbands, or without some proper companion to protect them from any impertinence. One unfortunate case, which happened not long ago, seemed to be entirely owing to this practice; but dissipated and designing young men, I understand, contrived to get over this difficulty. The general order given in a morning, *not at home*, is mentioned by the servant to all the visitors; but an impudent man, by bribing the servant, and partly by pretended force, hears the order, but
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gets admission; the servant afterwards making some lame excuse. Whenever a forbidden visitor of this sort is admitted, a lady may be assured there is a plot laid, and that her servants are in the combination to betray her.

Of the arts used directly or indirectly for the purpose of deluding, there is no occasion to speak, because, not to mention religious duties and injunctions, the poorest book written on morality teaches us that we are carefully to watch the beginning of all errors and crimes, and to resist them. For if the first thoughts of any thing wrong are not checked and dismissed from our minds, the steps are so gradual, that they acquire their ascendancy before we are aware of the consequences to which they infallibly lead. It would, perhaps, be a good general rule for every married woman to ask herself this question: Should I admit of this familiarity or allow this conversation if my husband were standing by me? and if the answer be, *I certainly should not*, she may then judge of its impropriety, if she has any understanding. But I very much suspect some want of understanding in those who have dared to break the laws of God and of their country, and whether this be shewn in folly or madness, it is an object of pity and commiseration; but if either of these becomes vicious, it must and ought to be controlled or restrained. Let any one judge of the sense of the lady (a married woman with several children) to whom the following case relates. She was walking near Hyde Park Corner, a servant following, when she met one of the friends of her family, who expressed his inclination to have some conversation with her. She said she was in a hurry, and added, that she was going to do a very foolish thing, of which she should repent as long as she lived. A coach was called, and she drove directly to the house of her *paramour*, also married, and with a large family. He was unwilling to see her, but she declared she would not leave the house till he came to her. He did come, and they went off together. Her ruin seems to be inevitable, and the distress of his mind will more than repay him for the fatal error he has committed. Can any one doubt of the folly or insanity of this lady, or see any reason why she should not have been confined like any other insane person?

In the suits of law which have been brought before courts of judicature, women seem to be treated with shameful indignity, that is, like any other property, and not as reasonable beings, capable of judging what is right and wrong, and of acting accordingly. If it were not for the punishment inflicted upon them by the neglect and contempt of the world, what would a woman convicted of the heinous crime of *adultery* suffer? For every other crime, the individuals who commit it (the law making no difference between male and female) are punished in their own person. If a man's wife were to *steal*, she would be punished; or if she were to commit *murder*, she, not her husband, would suffer; and why she should not suffer personal punishment for *adultery*, the law against which is given in as plain terms, and enjoined by the same authority, I cannot see. Yet when my good
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old friend, Lord Auckland, proposed some years ago to bring in an act of parliament, merely to prevent the unhappy criminals from marrying, this was rejected; and I am sorry to say that many (a very great number) of ladies went to solicit the votes of members of parliament against this act. This conduct I could not explain without thinking very harshly of those ladies, by supposing that they thought they did, or might, stand in need of the permission then granted. Yet the late Bishop Horsley told them, and he was supported by the authority of scripture, that the subsequent marriage was only a continuance of the adulterous intercourse.

My oldest son was in the House of Commons a few nights ago, and he told me that the Chancellor of the Exchequer had given notice that he would bring in a bill for the prevention and punishment of adultery. What he means to propose I cannot judge, but he has undertaken an arduous task. For sufficient and proper personal punishment, however much it may be deserved, he will certainly be at a loss; but it may be hinted to him, that a penitentiary-house would be a proper place for them, or they might be confined in a solitary cell for three, five, or seven years, according to the degree of their guilt. But he is a better judge than I pretend to be, and I hear is a virtuous man, and heartily wish him success.

Pray excuse this long letter from your humble servant,

DEBORAH.

10th March, 1809.

WHAT CONSTITUTES A PERSON'S PATRIA?

To the Editor of the Athenæum.

Sir,

IN the memoir of the Abbé Serassi, given in one of your late numbers, mention is made of the subject of his earliest publication, and it has probably appeared to many of your readers a very frivolous one—viz. “the native-place of Tasso.” As it is admitted that he was born at Sorrento in the gulf of Naples, no question seems to remain concerning his *native place*. But the word *patria*, here used in the Italian, and borrowed from the ancient languages, has a much more extended signification, referring not to mere nativity, but to origin, and the other circumstances which appropriate *country* to a name. I observe, indeed, that Tiraboschi, speaking of this controversy respecting Tasso, calls it a mere verbal dispute; and says that the whole of it consists in this—whether a person should recognize for his *patria* the ancient and accustomed seat of his family, or the place where he has accidentally been born? But it appears to me that something more substantial is connected with the question than this writer represents; and that in order to ascertain the right of a place to the honour of having produced any eminent individual, it is

necessary

necessary to enter into a kind of philosophical consideration of the causes which have chiefly conduced to render him what he is.

On reflecting upon this matter, I find three causes connected with place which may be supposed to exert an influence in this respect; these are, parentage, climate, and education.

The effect of parentage, or blood, is manifest, and universally recognised, as well in the inferior animals as in man; and doubtless is that which first operates. Through its force we see particular races of mankind preserving marked distinctions in the midst of people of different origin with whom they have long been locally intermixed, but with whom they have formed no connexion of consanguinity. Of this fact the Jews in all the northern countries of Europe are a remarkable instance; standing so much apart in feature and constitution, as well as in religion and manners, from the natives of those countries, that they never have any other national designation than that of Jews. The Chinese in various countries of the East in which they have settled are equally retentive of their national characteristics. By which of the two parents the influence of blood is principally transmitted, might be a curious physiological enquiry; but as every family affords manifest indications of its being derivable from both, I shall consider the share of the two sexes in this agency as perfectly equal. In determining the patria of a person, the first enquiry, therefore, should be the country of his father, his mother, or both, for at the time of birth no other influence can have operated.

The effect of climate is evidently secondary, and in many cases it would be absurd to pay any regard to that of mere birth-place. What can it signify to a child born on the passage from India whether the event occurred under the line, or in any particular degree of latitude between it and the English channel? Nothing is more common than for persons in the diplomatic service to have children dropt in half the capitals of Europe; but no one considers their progeny as a motley brood of French, Spaniards, Germans, Turks, &c. Climate may, indeed, exert a considerable influence when long residence allows it a stable operation upon the human frame; and we have examples of its efficacy in the Creole character, as compared to that of the European nations whence that race has originated. Indeed, upon the supposition that the whole human species is derived from one family, no other cause than climate, and its natural concomitants of food, employment, &c. can be assigned for the existing diversities among mankind. But this slides into the third cause of connection with place, namely education.

Education, understood in its large sense, of every thing that is employed either with or without a direct intention, to impress the youthful mind, is a powerful agent in forming the character, moral and intellectual, and is therefore much to be regarded in awarding the claim of patria. By its efficacy, a family of foreigners, conforming in language and manners to their adopted country, may soon be indistinguishably blended with its natives, where the radical differences of
origin

origin are not very strongly marked: as, on the other hand, by keeping apart, and using their own language and customs, they may for some generations exist as a foreign colony in the midst of strangers. Both these cases are discernible in the progeny of French refugees in this and other protestant countries.

From all these considerations it will appear, that the affair of properly localizing individuals must frequently be a difficult and complicated problem, and that not only nomenclature, but the philosophy of the human mind, is concerned in the question. Commonly, indeed, it is a question merely of local vanity, as where two different provinces of the same country contend for an eminent man who has relations to both. The contests of this kind between our three sister kingdoms are nearly similar, since neither origin, climate, nor manners are sufficiently different in them to prevent a ready coalescence between native and adoptive races. In Italy, the national diversity between Lombards and Neapolitans might, perhaps, render the controversy about Tasso somewhat more important than provincial rivalry; though it is evident that Tiraboschi, from the turn he has given to it, has taken part merely as a Lombard. For, upon the principle that, physically considered, the share of one parent in a child is as much as that of the other, and that therefore family name and inheritance are nothing to the question, the maternal descent of Tasso, added to his birth and early education, would clearly adjudge him rather to Naples than to Bergamo.

To conclude, according to my ideas, the claim of the place where a person happens to be born, in assigning his *patria*, is of the lowest degree—that of the country of his ancestry, if derived through a long and unbroken lineage, is, perhaps, of the highest—but that in which his mind and manners have been formed from infancy to manhood may in certain cases acquire equal validity.

Yours, &c.

PHYSICO-GENEALOGICUS.

WHALE FISHERY IN THE FEROE ISLANDS.

The whale fishery is periodical, and does not now take place so often as formerly; but where carried on it produces great advantage to these islands. The whales, which are of a small species, come to Feroe in shoals of from one hundred to a thousand; and when it is considered that each fish in general yields one cask of train oil, which sells for nine rix dollars, the value of one fishing will amount to from nine hundred to a thousand rix dollars, besides the benefit which the natives derive from the fish itself, which, if not employed for making oil, affords agreeable and wholesome food. The word whale is an agreeable sound to the inhabitants of Feroe: when a few of them are met on particular occasions, if any subject of discourse is introduced, which, however, is seldom the case among them, the word *whale* is

no

no sooner mentioned than every face brightens up with joy, and they all seem to be animated with a desire of talking on so favourite a subject; but if a messenger suddenly arrives with intelligence that a shoal of whales has been seen approaching the islands, it operates like an electric shock, and the whole village, old and young, are instantly in motion.

These shoals are generally discovered by some of the fishing boats, and as soon as they are observed, a signal is suspended from the boat's mast, in order that the other boats may assemble to assist in driving the whales towards the land. When the boats are assembled, they form themselves into a semi-circle around the whales, and the fishermen drive them before them by throwing out the stones which are fixed to their fishing lines. As soon as it is discovered from any village that the fishermen are thus employed, the agreeable intelligence is echoed from one to another; the men crowd together, rush into the boats to lend their assistance, and messengers are dispatched in great haste over the hills and vallies to give notice to the villages which are more distant; but before the messenger can reach them all, the report, perhaps, has been heard, and each man, furnished with a piece of bread and meat, stands ready to run to the spot where the messenger may announce the whales to be. But if the village lies on the other side of a bay, a signal is made either by three sheets spread out on the shore, or by a strong smoke produced by burnt hay; and in the course of a few hours the men of several villages, and even of several islands, are assembled in boats out at sea, or in the creeks to which they observe the whales to be driven. The whales in the meantime are exceedingly tame, and suffer themselves to be driven before the boats like a flock of sheep; but sometimes they are wild, and can with difficulty be driven, especially when the foremost has been near the land. In this case they often turn about, dive under the boats, and endeavour to escape to sea again. It is the business then of the fishermen to pursue them, to surround them, and, if possible, to turn them back, which is done by beating and splashing in the water with the oars, or, as before said, throwing at them the stones fastened to the fishing lines. This occupation requires sometimes the toilsome labour of several days and nights; but it is often entirely lost, and the whales, notwithstanding all the care employed, make their escape. When the shoal has been driven into a convenient creek, if night be approaching, the fishermen must remain at rest in their boats, in order to keep the whales confined till the morning; but if they have the day before them, and if there be a sufficient number of people collected on the shore to meet the whales, the attack then begins, and affords a very singular and terrible spectacle to the by-standers. If the time will permit, a fire is kindled on the shore, to deceive the whales; for it has been discovered by experience that they are accustomed to follow the light of the moon when it appears at a small distance from the horizon or shore; and the smoke of the fire conceals from them the land. The boats in the meantime are arranged in a semicircular form,

to intercept the whales in case they should endeavour to escape when attacked on all sides.

When the shoal has advanced within about two hundred fathoms of the shore, and the whales have turned their heads towards the land, which is the position in which the fishermen wish them to be, a part of the boats, the men in which are provided with the proper weapons, begin the slaughter by rowing into the middle of the shoal, and darting their lances into the whales behind the tail. They, however, avoid wounding those whales which lie close to the boats, because, if wounded, they might dash the boats to pieces and hurt the men in them. The shoal, when many of them are thus wounded, move forward with prodigious force, carrying with them an immense body of water, and a great many of them run on shore, so that in consequence of the reflux of the water they are left on dry land; but the people collected on the shore rush on them in a furious manner, and with their sharp knives cut every whale they meet with across the neck. An active man, who knows how to make use of his knife, can at two strokes cut the neck to the bone; and after that the animal by its tumbling breaks its neck entirely. The people drag the whales on shore by thrusting their hands into the hole through which they breathe; but above all things they must not touch their eyes; for if they did, the whales would become exceedingly restless, and with a stroke of their tail, in which they have a particular strength, might hurt the men who are dragging them. The sea in consequence of this slaughter becomes as red as blood, and the whales which have not been wounded remain in it, as it were, blinded or bewildered; and it is very singular, that when a whale which has not been wounded gets into clear water, it immediately returns to the bloody water, where it becomes a sacrifice to its mistake.

There have been instances of these whales running on shore of themselves, without being driven by the inhabitants; but there is reason to think that in this case they were pursued by some ravenous marine animal.

When the whales have been dispatched and carried on shore, they are valued by the provincial judge and two assistants, and the value is marked on each fish in Roman characters. The tithe is then set apart, and the largest whale is selected for the boat which first discovered the shoal: the head of this whale is given to the man who first perceived the shoal approaching, and another fish falls to the share of those who have sustained any damage in their boats or their oars. A whale for the provost (clergyman) and another for the poor are next picked out; and if the shoal has been large, a whale is distributed to each of some inferior civil officers. The remainder is divided into two portions, one of which belongs to the proprietor of the place where the whales were driven on shore, and the other to those who assisted either in the driving or killing them; but some portion is assigned also to those who arrived first on the sand after the whales were killed, in order that they may not have made a long journey in vain.

The flesh of these whales is eaten fresh by the inhabitants, who account it agreeable food, and certain parts are even used by foreigners as a delicacy; the flesh below the blubber has a great resemblance to beef, both in taste and appearance; that which is not eaten fresh is cut into thick stripes and hung up to be dried. The greater part of the blubber is converted into train oil; but some of it is salted in casks or barrels, and in want of these, in boats: the blubber on the back is suffered to remain on the animal till it is used; but that on the sides, after being hung up a week or a fortnight, will keep several years, and is used by the inhabitants instead of bacon.

Besides these small whales, large ones, called *doglingen*, are sometimes caught, but chiefly at the southernmost islands. This kind of whale is easily killed: when it appears, the inhabitants row close to it, and scratch it on the back with an oar, by which means it lies perfectly still; they then close up its breathing holes with wool, which prevents it from diving under the water, and they make a hole in its blubber, into which they tie a rope, and thus drag it on shore. It is asserted that the animal experiences no pain from the hole made in its blubber, but rather an agreeable sensation, which, as it remains so quiet, appears to be the case. When it has been brought near to the land, and the rope has been made fast on shore, others row around it in boats, and pierce it till the blood gushes out; but this labour is attended with very great danger, as it then beats about in a terrible manner with its tail. The blubber of this whale is not used as food; if it be eaten by any of the inhabitants, it passes through the pores of the skin, and communicates to the clothes a yellow colour and a fetid smell.

Other large whales are seen around these islands and in some of the bays, but the inhabitants have not yet learnt the method of overcoming them.

(To be continued.)

ACCOUNT OF THE PITS OF FULLER'S-EARTH IN SURREY.

The pits, or quarries, as they are sometimes improperly called, of Fuller's-earth in the neighbourhood of Reygate, in Surrey, supply the principal part of that article used in and about London. They are situated to the eastward of Reygate, on the road to Bletchingley. There are at present four pits whence the earth is dug. Formerly there were some others, which have either been exhausted or abandoned. Two are in the grounds of Mr. Morris, of Redstone, about two miles from Reygate; another belonging to Mr. Russell, and the fourth to Mr. Dann, of Nutfield; both these last lie close to the place, and about three miles and a half from Reygate and one mile from Bletchingley. They are all very near the main cross road that leads

leads from Guildford, all through Surrey and Kent, to Maidstone. The largest pit of Mr. Morris's, situated on the north brow of Red-stone-hill, and to the left of the road, very near his farm-house, is reckoned to produce the greatest quantity of the best sort of Fuller's-earth, which is of a yellow or light brown colour, called here, however, white earth, to distinguish it from the blue or slate-coloured fuller's-earth, which is found both in that and in the other pits. The surface soil is a sandy loam, under which is a thin stratum of sandstone, to which succeeds a stratum of what is locally termed *shravey** earth; being a mixture of friable sand-stone, ochreous clay, and fuller's-earth, and immediately under that, about twelve feet from the surface, lies the rich bed of genuine fuller's-earth; this extends to various depths from ten to twenty feet, and underneath it is a layer of the blue earth. Although the yellow, or white, as it is here called, is preferred to the blue, the latter appears to the touch to be fully as saponaceous, if not more so, than the former, and comes out in larger masses, less intersected by the ochreous veins that run through both sorts; but the blue earth leaves, or is supposed to leave, a dusky tinge upon the woollens for which it is used. A greenish kind of fuller's-earth is also found, below the other beds, but is generally rejected, being said to be gritty. I could not find a specimen of this green sort at these pits; but to judge from some fuller's-earth that had that hue, which I found in St. Leonard's forest, in Sussex, I should suppose that the assertion that it is gritty is either erroneous, or, at least, only locally correct, as nothing could be fatter, more saponaceous, or more free from grit or sand than the greenish earth. From four to six workmen are employed at this pit, in which the earth lying so near the surface, no machinery is necessary, as it is conveyed by wheelbarrows up a gentle ascent into the shed where it is laid up, and afterwards loaded in the waggons that fetch it. In this pit are often found crystals of barytes, sometimes in large masses, of the size of a man's head; they are called by the workmen waterfactions, probably a slipslop corruption of petrifications, but most generally sugar candy stones, from their resemblance both in colour, and when broken, in appearance, to brown sugar candy. They are not found where the vein of earth runs rich and good, but principally where beds of the *shravey* soil before mentioned are met with. Though the proprietors of the pits do not like the appearance of these crystals amongst the earth, they are not unwelcome to the workmen, whose perquisite they are, and who usually dispose of them to any curious stranger that visits the pits. A vender of curiosities in London generally pays them a visit every three or four months, and purchases the best specimens. The most curious are hollow balls, the inside of

* This is a provincial term used in Sussex and the lower part of Surrey, to denote any soil mixed with sandstone. On the South Downs it is more generally applied to those spots on the sides of steep hills, where the turf has slipped away and exposed the soil. These holes or gullies are termed *shraves*, which is supposed to be derived from the Saxon Schpamme, a scar, or trench.

of which exhibit very beautiful cristallizations; but these are of rare occurrence. Some of the small regular crystals got from the interior of an irregular sparry mass, are as beautiful as topazes, finely coloured, and regularly tabulated.

The second pit of Mr. Morris's, which lies two fields to the eastward of the first, and nearer the road, affords principally blue earth, and in it no crystals have been found. The earth here lies under a solid bed of ironstone, fourteen or fifteen feet in thickness. A windlass is used for winding up the earth in wooden buckets. On the other side of this field another pit has been lately attempted, in which a vein of blue earth, darker in colour than any other, occurred; but it has been overflowed, and it has not been thought worth while to clear it of water.

Mr. Russel's pit, which is very extensive, is next. It is on the right hand of the road, about two miles from the others; it is dug on the side of a hill, crowned with coppicing. Directly under the mould in which the underwood grows appears a thick stratum, perhaps twenty feet thick, of very hard ironstone, and then comes the shravey soil, which is the immediate precursor of the fuller's-earth. In this pit the alternate layers of blue and of yellow earth are more frequent and more intermixed than in the others. The blue earth of this pit is the lightest in colour, and apparently the driest and most friable, but is very free from ochreous veins. This pit is worked the deepest, but yet it is not above forty feet from the top. Considerable quantities of crystals come out of it.

Behind this, and along the south-east brow of the same hill, lies Mr. Dann's pit, or rather pits, being worked down in two different directions. They offer nothing remarkable to distinguish them from the others. A few crystals occasionally occur in them.

There are vestiges of extensive pits or quarries all along the southern brow of this hill, but which have for a long time been abandoned, and filled up with rubbish.

The fuller's-earth is sold at the pits, without distinction of quality, at six shillings per ton weight; or, when fetched in small quantities, at five-pence per hundred weight. The pits are situated about three miles from Merstham, whence there is an iron railway, which reaches on the left to Kingston, and on the right to Croydon, whence the Surrey canal takes goods into the Thames. The charge for carriage for the three miles from the pits to Merstham is seven shillings per ton, and the carriers talk of raising the price. There are occasionally country teams that go to London to fetch deals, manure, and other articles, and will then take up a load of fuller's-earth all the way on moderate terms; but these opportunities are only accidental. The Reygate carrier's waggon, on a deficiency of other freight, will fetch the fuller's-earth from the pits, and deliver it in London, including the price of the earth, paid by the carrier, at from thirty to six-and-thirty shillings per ton, according to the part of the town to which it must be conveyed.

The

The annual quantity of fuller's-earth dug at all these pits amounts from four thousand to four thousand five hundred tons. Since the establishment of the iron railway to Merstham, the quantity has increased by about a thousand tons per annum.

The only mention I have met with of these productive pits of a most necessary material is in Mannuy's history of Surrey, in which, speaking of the manor of Redstone, it is said in a note that "fuller's-earth is found here in great plenty."

W.

29th March, 1809.

For the Athenæum.

CLERMONT-TONNERRE, BISHOP OF NOYON.

D'Alembert, in his History of Members of the French Academy, gives what he terms the "*Apology* of Francis de Clermont Tonnerre, Bishop of Noyon;" the reason of which title was, that a sort of ridicule was attached to his name on account of a characteristic vanity which had made him the subject of many sarcastic anecdotes. This vanity was the pride of birth, which he possessed beyond any man of his time in France, accompanied with a kind of literary and professional pride, that made altogether a very whimsical combination. As all singularities of the human character afford matter of entertainment or instruction, I beg leave to offer to the Athenæum an article on the dignified ecclesiastic above-mentioned, chiefly extracted from the work of D'Alembert.

Descended from the ancient and illustrious family of Clermont-Tonnerre in Dauphiné, and son to the count of that name, *Francis* was born in 1629. He was destined to the church; and after having occupied three other sees, was finally raised to the bishopric of Noyon, which confers the rank of a peer of France. He was likewise commander of the order of the Holy Ghost; and had therefore a right to consider himself, in point of titular dignity, as one of the most conspicuous personages in the Gallican church. But the pride of birth took place in him of that of station, and he seems to have valued his prelacy chiefly as enabling him to support the splendour of his noble house. His ideas of its nobility may be judged from the reply he made to Louis XIV., who once asked him how it happened that the house of Clermont-Tonnerre had not, like so many other noble houses in the kingdom, been distinguished by any office at court. "It is (said he) because my ancestors were too great to be the servants of your's." This answer might be considered as really dignified, had it proceeded from notions of political independence; but this, we shall see, was by no means his way of thinking. It was pure pride that urged him to insist that one of the canons of his cathedral

cathedral should bear his train in public ceremonials; a claim which the chapter resisted, and which produced a trial before the parliament of Paris. He employed a writer to draw up under his inspection a "History of all the Saints of the House of Clermont-Tonnerre," which was printed. These saints, however, were less known to the pious, than many whose fathers were not *gentlemen*. It is said that he wished to change his baptismal name of *Francis* for one more noble than that of the founder of a mendicant order; and that he declined pronouncing the panegyric of St. Jean de Dieu, founder of the respectable monastic order called les Freres de la Charité, after he had learned that this friend of humanity had been a lacquey in his youth. Having once been present at a sermon by one of the king's chaplains, he expressed his approbation of it by saying "I have been hearing a *gentleman*, who preaches well." So exclusively did he confine even his religious feelings within the limits of rank, that a satirical epitaph represented him as looking in at the door of Paradise, and drawing back because he saw no company within but plebeians.

His literary vanity singularly contrasted with his family pride, since it necessarily produced a kind of appeal to the people, and threw him into the society of those whom he must have regarded as greatly his inferiors. In a curious document containing the heads of an *éloge* of himself which he dictated to his secretary, he dwells at length upon his progress through all the stages of ecclesiastical education, and his performances as a scholastic, a preacher, and a prelate. So highly did he think of his pulpit exercises, that he once said, "he had become a bishop, like a monk, by dint of preaching." A cordelier dedicating a thesis to him requested to be informed if he had enumerated all his titles: "You have forgot (said the bishop) *Viro in Scripturis potentissimo*." Thinking it for the interest of his literary reputation that he should become one of the forty of the French Academy, he procured admission into that body in 1694. It is affirmed that he scrupled on this occasion to pronounce, according to custom, the eulogy of the person to whose vacant seat he succeeded, Barbier d'Aucourt, an estimable man of letters, but of mean origin. This eulogy is, however, extant in print, and bears no marks of a reluctant tribute. The reply of the recipient, the abbé Caumartin, is also in print, and is a curious example of irony, not perceived by the prelate himself, whose vanity led him to take seriously all the exaggerated praises, but manifest to the auditors and the public. Some strokes in this piece of *persiflage* (in modern English, *quizz*) will give an insight into the bishop's literary character.

After a contrast between the humble but genuine man of letters deceased, and his noble successor, in whose blood "all the glories of the earth are united," the abbé proceeds—"The place which you occupy has long been your due. That eloquence by which we are still dazzled, and of which you have erected the model, every where accompanies you. It is not confined to your harangues or your sermons, it shines in your letters and your most familiar conversations. The

The holdest and most prominent figures, which the greatest orators do not employ without trembling, are by you scattered in profusion, and introduced into regions in which they have hitherto been strangers. Ordinances and pastoral instructions, destined solely to the government of souls, instead of the negligent simplicity which characterised them before your time, have become in your hands master-pieces of human wit. Whilst the church beholds with edification in your sage mandates the truth of its doctrine, the purity of its morals, the integrity of its discipline, the authority of its hierarchy, established and maintained in the diocese of Noyon since the happy era of your episcopacy, we likewise recognise in them just allusions, well-supported allegories, and a method no where else to be found, and without which it would be difficult to follow ideas so magnificent as yours." The abbé goes on to touch upon a nice point, namely, the amusement the king appeared to derive from this prelate's singularities. "He, better than any one, knows all your value. He loves to converse with you, and when you speak, a joy perceptible to every one is diffused over his countenance." His Majesty, however, who was a great observer of decorum, and could not bear any thing like a liberty taken with himself, resented this freedom so much, that no interest could obtain a bishopric for Caumartin till the next reign. If the bishop of Noyon became really sensible of the abbé's purpose of exposing him to ridicule, he deserves praise for his placability, since he afterwards gave him proofs of sincere friendship, and interceded for him with the king. Caumartin, however, was a *man of family*.

Pride is always a distinct thing from real elevation of mind, yet on some occasions it appears like it. This is especially the case when it opposes another pride, and repels its insolence. The following anecdote of the bishop of Noyon is an instance of this kind. A duke and peer of a late creation once expressed to him his surprize that the ecclesiastical peers should have precedence in parliament over the lay peers, adding, that the ancient peers of the realm* took place, without opposition, of all the prelatie peers. "That is true (replied the bishop); but you do not consider that it was more honourable then to follow such men as they were, than it is now to precede such men as you are."

It was something better than pride—it was a just sense of the dignity and decencies of his episcopal character—that influenced him on the following occasion. The king was travelling through Noyon, and the marshals of his household had marked a lodging for his favourite mistress in the episcopal palace. The bishop refused to admit her; and when mildly reproached by the king for his want of gallantry, "Sire (said he) you would never have pardoned my complaisance." This was both a noble apology for himself, and a delicate lesson to the monarch. It would come with more force, as this prelate fully partook of that high passion of loyalty which characterised the

* These were all feudal sovereigns.

the French nation in the reign of Louis XIV. He was assiduous in those duties of attendance about his person that were then considered as so indispensable to courtiers; and once, being present, in his seventieth year, at the royal *coucher*, when the king represented to him that his age dispensed him from paying his court at so late an hour, "The heart, Sire (he replied) does not grow old." In this spirit, when he chose to be recorded as a benefactor to the Academy by the foundation of a prize for poetry, he restricted the subject in perpetuity to the eulogy of Louis XIV. It will not be doubted that such an establishment would produce a most plentiful crop of adulation. In fact, the incense was so highly flavoured, that the king himself, who was to be consulted as to any delicate point, found it expedient sometimes to lower the quality. For nearly a century the prescribed subject was strictly adhered to, till "the ashes of Louis le Grand (says d'Alembert) were smothered in laurels." At length the Academy determined to leave the monarch's memory to the record of history, and to permit the poetical candidates to chuse their own topics.

The bishop of Noyon died in 1701, leaving a name consigned to ridicule on account of the ostentation and weak vanity of his character, but estimable for some traits of generosity, and for the liberality with which he expended his revenues upon pious and charitable foundations in his diocese. The idea of being elevated above the mass of mankind even by an accidental circumstance, such as that of birth, has some tendency to promote a correspondent elevation of mind in those points to which the public esteem is attached; and on this account the pride of family is not without its use, though it must always be greatly inferior as a principle of action to the genuine nobility of virtuous sentiment.

A.

SALISBURY SERVICE BOOK. KNIGHTHOOD.

(Continued.)

I must add, that Butler's Knight is as characteristical, in his way, as either Chaucer's or Spenser's; though it would have been out of character to have marked him with Romish superstitions; for Sir Hudibras is "*Presbyterian true Blue*," at the same time, he is the very "*Mirrouir o' Knighthood*."

Was I for this entitled Sir,
And girt with rusty sword and spur?*

As a mock Cavalier he encounters adventures similar to those of a Cavalier in form, and his humour will receive illustration from the costume

* Hudibras, Part i, Canto 2, v. 741.

costume and language of chivalry: for this is the nature of mock-heroic poetry, *Parvis magna componere*.

But enough of the Knights Service. *PEREGRINORUM SERVITIUM*, or the Service for Pilgrims, begins with CONFESSION. The author of *Piers Plowman's VISIONS*, and the other Lollard Poets of the 14th century, were in the habit of satirizing all the abuses of Popery. Chaucer, who may be considered as one of our Lollard Poets, speaking of a wanton Friar, rallies confession thus:

Ful swetely herde he confessyon,
And pleasaunt was his absolucyon;
He was an easy man to gyve penaunce,
There as he wyst to have a good pytance;
Therefore in stede of wepyng and prayres
Men mote gyve sylver to the poore freres.*

When the good men rose from the altar, where they were prostrated on their knees, the priest blessed their Wallet and their Staff, signing them at the same time with the sign of the Cross; he afterwards sprinkled them with holy water, and put the Wallet round the neck of the Pilgrims: and both the Wallet and the Staff were after this exercise considered holy.

Hence the Wallet, hung about the neck, and the Staff, were emblematical of the Pilgrims; though we find the Wallet sometimes carried by a page.

Behind her far away a dwarfe did lag,
That lasie seem'd in being ever last,
Or wearied with bearing of her bag.†

Spenser in the second Book of his *Fairie Queen*,‡ entitled, the Legend of *Sir Guyon*, or *Temperance*, speaking of the Palmer or Pilgrim, who attends his Knight, describes him with this emblem:

Him als accompanyd upon the way
A comely Palmer, clad in black attire;
Of ripest years, and haire all hoary gray,
That with a staff his feeble steps did styre.

We find a sacred influence attending his presence, and a supernatural power lodged in his staff. He is to *Sir Guyon* what *Minerva*, in the shape of *Mentor*, is to *Telemachus*, his guardian and guide.

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Still

* THE FRERE.

† Spenser's *Faerie Queene*, B. 1. Canto i. 6.

‡ Ib. B. 2. Cant. i. 7.

Still he him guided over dale and hill,
 And with his steedie staffe did point his way:
 His race with reason, and with words his wille
 From fowle intemperance he ofte did stay,
 And suffred not on wrath his hastie steps to stray.*

At the end of the 12th Canto of Sir Guyon† we find there is magical power in this staff.+

Streightway he with his vertuous staffe them strooke,
 And streight of beastes they comely men became;

in the same manner as we find witches and magicians described with wands, rods, or staves: Thus Butler,

Or trip it o'er the water quicker,
 Than witches, when their staves they liquor,
 As some report.‡

I have not deemed it necessary to quote the particular parts of these Services, whether Psalms, Prayers, or Benedictions, &c. The following, however, shall be left as a specimen. If any pilgrims were going to Jerusalem, they then were to have garments marked with the sign of the cross; and the crosses were blest by the following prayer:

Deus, invictæ potentæ pietatis immensæ atq. peregrinantium totius consolationis auxilium, qui famulis tuis victricia arma tribuis, quæsumus ut has cruces deuotæ humilitatis bene dicere digneris; ut venerandæ crucis vexillum (cujus in eis est designata figura) sit invictissimum robur servorum tuorum contra antiqui hostis nequissima tentamenta: sit in via defensio: sit in domo protectio: sit ubiq. præsidium.—Holy water having been sprinkled on the garment, the priest then delivered it to the pilgrim with these words:

Accipe vestimentum cruce domini nostri salvatoris signatum; ut per illud, salus, benedictio & virtus prospere proficiscendi ad Sepulchrum ipsius te comitentur.

Connected with the pilgrimage to Jerusalem, there is mentioned in the Service-Book, a pilgrimage to *St. James*: And Chaucer speaks of the wife of Bath thus:

And thryce had she ben at Hierusalem,
 She had passed many a stronge streme.
 In Rome had she ben and at Boloine
 IN CALYS AT ST. JAMES and at Coloine.§

For ladies undertook these hardy pilgrimages as well as men.

From

* Spenser's *Faerie Queene*, B. 34.

† Ibid. B. 2, Canto 2, v. 86.

‡ Hudibras, Part 1. Canto iii. v. 105, 106.

§ The Wife of Bath.

From these few hints we may collect, that as the weeds, thrown away, as being noxious to a particular soil, may yet have their use in some other relations, so ancient superstitions may serve very important purposes, in illustrating the writers of a particular period, when they cease to operate as the religion of a country: and that popular manners will always give a colour to the language of poetry, and therefore will be its best expositors. That this, indeed, should be the case with poetry must be more particularly and universally expected; for poetry being in its very nature imitative, must necessarily take its hue from the times, as the stream from the bed over which it flows. Thus, too, prose-writers may receive illustration; as where in a treatise on the New Testament the Abbot Ælfric, the Saxon writer mentioned above, says, "the throne is founded on these three pillars, labourers, warriors, orators;" he adds, quoting the New Testament in Latin, as the Saxons used, not in Greek, "Non sine causâ portat miles gladium," which he translates "Ne byrth na se cniht butan intingam his sward," "The knight beareth not his sword in vain." He further adds, he is "Codes Then," "He is God's Thane," for tho' Thegnian (Sax.) means to minister, yet Thane was a title of distinction among the Saxons. In a Catholic version of the New Testament we have, "With such Hosts God is well pleased;" and in the Lord's Prayer, *αὐτοῦ τοῦ σῶστος* is translated, Supersubstantial bread. The Catholic Church believed the doctrine of Transubstantiation. The Saxon has it Dæghwamlican Hlaf, daily bread. The Saxon Church did not believe Transubstantiation, as may be seen in Abbot Ælfric's Sermon on Easter-day. Once more. Wickliffe's Translation of Luke i. 15, he shall drink neither wine nor strong drink, has, ne wyn, ne cydre, Cyder; this word, therefore, has appeared to some a provincialism, proceeding from Wickliffe's connection with a cyder country, and as a compliment to it;

——— To the utmost bounds of this
Wide Universe Silurian Cider borne
Shall please all tastes, and triumph o'er the Vine.

Phillips's Cider.

In short, these writers did but use the appropriate, the national language: and a knowledge of even the superstitions of those times will help our feet over ground, where the fancies of etymologists might leave them stuck as in the clay—By the bye, the word Cyder formerly meant all strong liquors, except wine.

I have only to add, that I have used such poets, in reference to the Salisbury Service-Book, as are more generally admired, not merely because the ideas alluded to are interwoven in the thread of their poems, but because the Saxon poetical writers, for several centuries prior to the conquest,* and the poetical writers† for three centuries

* See on this subject the 2d vol. of Mr. Turner's very able History of the Anglo-Saxons. Indeed the best poetry of the Anglo-Saxons is in Latin.

† Mr. Ritson begins his *BIOGRAPHIA POETICA* in the 12th century, with St. Godric:

ries after are, with a few exceptions, but of little account: so that we are to consider Chaucer, as he is generally called, the Father of English Poetry.

I remain, &c.

G. DYER.

London, April 1809.

Godric: and the two or three verses from him take all their colour from the superstitions of the time. There is another way in which we may speak of the ancient English Poetry. For considering that the Saxon is our Parent Language (and therefore in the Irish, Scotch, and Welch Tongue it was always called SAXONACH, see VERSTEGAN'S Restitution of Decayed Intelligences) our Saxon Poets are properly our oldest English Poets. And, indeed, "Egbert, king of the West Saxons, after he abolished the Heptarchy, changed the various names of the inhabitants, omnesq; uno nomine vocavit Anglos circiter Annum salutis, 800, and called them all by one name, English, about the year 800." See MINSHEU. The most ancient piece of Anglo-Saxon Poetry is a fragment of a Song, by Cædmon. It is in Alfred's Translation of Bede; and may be seen in Mr. Turner's account of the Anglo-Saxon Poetry. Though called a Song, it is altogether religious, agreeably to the genius of the age.

ERRATA in the former part of this Letter, in the last month's Magazine.—P. 314, l. 21, for Sas, read Sus. P. 315, l. 10, for latey, read lately. P. 316, l. 22, dele as.

COLLECTANEA OXONIENSIA; OR, LETTERS TO AND FROM
EMINENT PERSONS, FROM THE ORIGINALS IN THE
BODLEIAN LIBRARY.

Affairs of Magdalen College continued.

From Dr. SYKES to Dr. CHARLETT.

Sir,

I am to thank you for two letters, one of the 10th, another of the 14th instant, and you had not escaped an answer to the first of them on Wednesday last, but that I was out of town at Sir William Dormer's. If I had written then, you had had an account of our Monday's convocation. You know from Mr. Lawrence that all degrees were denied. I suppose one main reason was, because it did not appear (as I have formerly written) that it was the king's desire that they should be granted; as to what concerns Mr. Dickens, Collins, and Brookes, you have had a true account already. Mr. Sparkes and Mr. Boileau were only recommended by Munson, secretary to my Lord Sunderland, to the Vice-chancellor, that if degrees were granted, it was the Chancellor of England's request that his chaplains might be Doctors. My last acquainted you that the Vice-chancellor wrote to our Chancellor to know his pleasure as to those things. He wrote back to this purpose, and, as near as I can remember, in these words: That he was creditably informed that it was the King's pleasure that the persons above mentioned should have their degrees; and therefore

therefore he desired that the Vice-chancellor would immediately call a convocation, that his Majesty might be obeyed therein. It is thought that the Chancellor had no information but what he had from the Vice-chancellor's letter; but, nevertheless, the Vice-chancellor was zealous that the degrees should be granted; but the Heads of Houses opposed it so vigorously, that for ought I can perceive it ought not regularly to have come into the house of convocation; and as soon as it was proposed, so briskly cried *non* as I never heard. The house was in all about 170. The first scrutiny for Mr. Sparkes and Mr. Boileau, contrary to the method of convocation, run 53 affirmations, and 118 against him. The rest had more against them, and for your friend J. C. the fewest of all, as I remember, 29. When the King was here, he asked a reverend Judge, i.e. J. H.* what he should do with the stubborn and rebellious fellows of Magdalen-college. He answered, his Majesty had two ways to proceed, either by a writ of *ejectment* or *scire facias*, and then put in himself; or else to bring a *quo warranto* against their charter, and so dissolve the college. This day my Lord Abbingdon came in here to be admitted steward of this city. He was met by all the aldermen, common-council, and the several companies, in the same manner that they met the King, only the aldermen and common-council met him on foot at the east gate, whereas [they] went out on horseback to meet the King; and what yet is, perhaps, something strange, the three troops here rode out to meet him. I must renew the old question from Mr. Porter, when you intend to return, though I think he himself will write to you. I am obliged to the great and worthy men that remember me. I entreat that you will return my humble service in such terms as you think will befit me. As to what concerns Mr. Cornwallis, I only can write, that if he would make good here what he said at Worcester, it would be a great kindness to many besides.

Dear Sir, your most humble servant, as before.

Sept. 16, [16] 87.

Magdalen-college stands as formerly.

From the same to the same.

Novemb. 16, [16] 87.

Sir,

I have received all your letters, and give you my hearty thanks for them; and this having been a day of action here, I send you what I can hear in requital. About eight o'clock this morning the visitors sate at Magdalen-college, and after a long speech from the Bishop, the Fellows were called, and their answer required whether they would subscribe a certain paper offered to them; the substance of which was, that they should acknowledge their fault for resisting the King thus long, and as a testimony of their repentance, acknowledge the

* Holloway.

the Bishop of Oxford for their lawful President, and promise obedience to him; which was refused by all to whom it was offered, that is, 25 of them, and every one of them, upon that account, are deprived. This test was not proposed to Dr. Thomas Smith;* I know not for what reason. And Mr. Thompson and Mr. Charnock said, they had no reason to subscribe it, because they did not oppose the King. These three are the only persons not deprived, except the absent, which were these following: Dr. Younger, excused by the Visitors themselves, as being in the Princess of Denmark's service. Mr. Maynard and Mr. Hickes, such as it appeared by certificates. Mr. Smyth, the physician, absent upon travel; and Mr. Holt and Mr. Hollice, without any reason given, as far as I can understand. Hooper, the madman, and the vacancies, make up the rest of the compleat number. Before these proceedings, Mr. Allibone was made Fellow by the Visitors in Mr. Ludford's place, and Mr. Joyner in Dr. Fairfax's. Since the sentence Mr. Jenefer and one Higgins, Demies of the college, are also made Fellows; the last is an under-graduate. And Mr. Walsh and Mr. Whaly, both of Merton-college, and kinsmen to the Bishop of Chester, are made Demies, and Hill the printer's son. Some other of the Demies were sent for, as it is surmised, to see if they would accept of preferment now it falls so plentifully; but if so, they have not accepted of it. The Demies drew up a paper, wherein they declared that they were of the same mind with the Fellows, for the same reasons; and one Mr. Holt, their Principal or Senior, offered it to the Visitors, who refused to receive it, telling him that he was a pert bold man, or to that purpose, and he might go about his business; so that they are like to be kept in against their inclinations. The Vice-chancellor was sent for to supper last night to the Visitors, but excused himself.

It was desired by the persons concerned that they might have a sight of the paper to be subscribed, which was refused, and they [were] required to give their answer immediately, one by one, upon hearing of it read. It is coffee-house discourse to-night, that Mr. Joyner is Vice-president. Three Under-graduates, Demies of Magdalen-college, refused Fellowships. Mr. Vice-chancellor was sent for four times last night, and invited to dinner by the Bishop of Oxon to-day with the Visitors, but was not there. There dined together two Bishops, two Judges, the Dean of Ch. Ch., the Master of University-college, Mr. Allibone, Mr. Joyner, Toyras Smith, T. C., the Chaplain, Byram Eaton, and some officers, of which it is supposed Capt. B., whom you know, was one. Preferment and wine was never more easy to be had.

Mr. H. gives his service to you. If I had not scribbled this, you might

* Dr. Tho. Smith (as I hear) had made a submission before, and therefore was excused from signing this. The reason why the Fellows of Magd. Coll. were deprived and expelled from their Fellowships assigned in the sentence is, for disobedience to the King, and contempt of his authority. The Visitors went hence this afternoon.

might have received a perfect account from him. On the other side Mr. Thornton and Mr. Goodwin were omitted among the absent. This was written piece-meal, and underwent corrections; therefore pray use your wonted candour to,

Sir, yours.

The Dean of St. Asaph was here lately, and we did not forget your health. I have not time to write to every one; if you see him, it will be a favour to communicate this, with most humble service, though I suppose he receives from others a better account. Mr. Haslewood, a Chaplain of Magd. Coll., formerly suspected to be a R. C., refused a Fellowship.

From Mr. CREECH to DR. CHARLETT,

On the same subject.

*** On Saturday, about five, he made his entry, between a line of scholars on one side and soldiers on the other. It was very solemn, without noise or shouting, and of the manner of it the printed papers give you an account. The same night news was brought to Magdalen-college of the death of Mr. Ludford. Mr. Goreing (who told me this) put in for a mandate, and Mr. Collins did the like. His Majesty told Goreing he should have it when the college was settled; but that it was a rebellious society, and he would chastise them. On Sunday morning the King touched, Warner and White officiating: all that waited on his Majesty kneeled at the prayers, beside the Duke of Beaufort, who stood all the time. In the afternoon he went to Obadiah's, who presented him with three books, and Mr. Hales made him a speech, thanking his Majesty for the toleration, and that the reformation of heresy was began first in that house; and though the waves and winds beat, yet their church was secure, being built upon a double rock, Infallibility and the King. The same afternoon the university presented their gloves and bible, and were well received; and Magdalen-college, according to summons, waited with a petition; the King would not hear any thing, but told them he expected to be obeyed, that they should shew themselves church of England men (if they were such) by their obedience, and concluded, that if they did not go and elect the Bishop of Oxford presently, they should feel the weight of a King's hand. At this time the party triumphed much, and Bernard said that this was some satisfaction. The courtiers wondered that they should pretend it was not in their power to obey the King, and bade them learn more wit. In a little time they brought their answers to the Secretary (Mr. Tomson dissenting) that they were sorry that the King's commands could not be obeyed, and that to make such an election would be downright perjury. The Secretary told them this was a very unsatisfactory answer, and so the matter hangs.

On

On Monday his Majesty was entertained at a very noble banquet in Selden's Library. When the scramble was permitted, he laughed, and said, Oxford was a merry place; and as he was walking out, he talked with the Vice-chancellor and Dr. South about preaching without notes. He said their church used none, and recommended that way. At the door he spoke a great while to the Vice-chancellor, telling him that we had a great many ill men amongst us; that we should have a care of their example; that the clergy should be humble and moderate; that we should be charitable to our neighbours, good subjects, and not envy the good he did to others: with these words his Majesty left us.

On Monday morning Mr. Penn, the Quaker (with whom I dined the day before, and had a long discourse concerning the college) wrote a letter to the King in their behalf, intimating that such mandates were a force on conscience, and not very agreeable to his other gracious indulgencies. The same morning a Gentleman of the Bed-chamber, with Charnock, brought a letter to the Vice-chancellor, requiring the degrees of Doctor of Divinity to be conferred on Mr. Collins, and Wiggins, the Bishop's Chaplains; and of Bachelor of Laws on Mr. Brooks, his Secretary. He was very earnest to have the Vice-chancellor declare presently, whether it should be done or not; but the Vice-chancellor replied, he could not do it by himself, but he would call a convocation as soon as conveniently he could, and then an answer should be returned. Clarke, of Baliol, is come hither open enough. Mr. H. was very busy at court, bowing to this and to that man, and now, I believe, only stays for time convenient. Pray an humble hearty service to Mr. Dean, &c. and if you think fit you may acquaint him that his Majesty oftentimes mentioned the Bishop of Worcester with a great deal of kindness. John Buckley was here, and would have been glad to have seen you.

I am your humble servant,

T. CREECH.

Sept. 6, [1687].

CLASSICAL DISQUISITIONS.

VARIOUS GREEK HISTORIANS.

THE nature of the arrangement which has been adopted in this series of papers, being founded in some degree on a regard both to the order of chronology, and to similarity of subject in the writers who have been selected, would lead us to treat next of Thucydides, though it will be necessary in the sequel to revert to some authors of rather higher antiquity, who are distinguished in different branches of literature. Previously, however, to an account of that great historian, it will be proper to pay attention to some remarks on a former article,

article, with which the writer has been favoured, communicated, through the editor of the *Athenæum*, from an unknown correspondent.

That correspondent points out an apparent inconsistency, which occurs in a former number,* where Hellanicus, the historian, is styled in one place a Milesian, in another a Lesbian. That the expression was inadvertent will readily be allowed, and the writer is obliged by the information, which has brought it to his notice. That it is absolutely erroneous, were he disposed to act the part of a resolute controversialist, might perhaps admit of a question.

To explain the sources of this inconsistency, a passage is quoted from the Abbé Terasson's notes on his translation† of Diodorus Siculus, which we shall transcribe from the letter of our correspondent. "There were two writers of the name of Hellanicus. One of them was a native of Lesbos, and the other of Miletus. The former was twelve years older than Herodotus. The latter lived at a later period, though the age in which he flourished is rather uncertain. Vossius remarks, that it is difficult to distinguish one of these authors from the other, when not designated by the name of the country to which he belonged, as they both wrote on the subject of history."

This circumstance may, perhaps, deserve to be placed in a somewhat fuller light. It has been investigated by Sturz, the learned editor of the fragments of Hellanicus, with more minuteness and success than by any other writer. The only passage among the ancients, so far as the inquiry of that careful critic has extended, which speaks of Hellanicus of Miletus, is a short article in Suidas, to the following purport. "Hellanicus, the Milesian, who wrote histories, and a survey of the earth." This, with the exception of a very ambiguous passage of Aristides, from which nothing certain can be inferred, appears to be the sole authority on which the supposition has been founded, of two writers of ancient history, bearing the name of Hellanicus. The Milesian writer is therefore either to be regarded as a fabrication of Suidas, an inaccurate, though, from the loss of his originals, a very useful compiler, or he was at best but a very obscure author. Among all the fragments which occur in ancient writers under the name of Hellanicus, numerous as they are, there is not a single instance which there is any reason for ascribing to any Hellanicus of Miletus, distinct from Hellanicus the Lesbian, or, as Suidas styles him, the Mitylenæan, who was nearly the contemporary of Herodotus, preceding him, according to Gellius, on the authority of Pamphila, twelve years in age.

The question, therefore, occurs, and from the preceding statement might seem to be of easy solution, whether the single Hellanicus, to whom all extant fragments under that name are apparently to be ascribed, is to be styled a Lesbian or a Milesian.

Wesseling and Valckenaër, names of great eminence in ancient literature,

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* *Athenæum*, No. xxvii. p. 296.

† I. 61.

literature, adopt the latter of these titles. Perhaps they had never been induced to bestow much attention on the subject, and spoke at hazard; or their opinion, if fixed, was probably founded on the circumstance, that the fragments of Hellanicus partake rather of an Ionic than a Doric character.

It is, however, to be observed, that could the dialect of Hellanicus be exactly ascertained, it would be a circumstance by no means decisive of his country; Hippocrates and Herodotus, both of Doric origin, having employed the Ionic dialect in their writings. The title of Lesbian also, where any epithet is added, usually accompanies the name of Hellanicus in ancient authors, that of Milesian occurs but once.

The subject seems, therefore, sufficiently free from the danger of any important confusion. If the title of a work be mentioned, or a passage quoted by an ancient author, under the name of Hellanicus, it may with probability and safety be ascribed to Hellanicus of Lesbos, a well known historian, even if, on the imperfect authority of Suidas, the existence of another writer bearing the same name, who lived in a subsequent period at Miletus, should be admitted, a writer so obscure, that all trace of his age and circumstances is completely lost.

The following hypothesis, not devoid of probability, has been proposed by Sturz for the solution of the difficulty to which this ambiguity of designation has given rise.

It is possible that the *same* Hellanicus might be called both the Mitylenæan, or Lesbian, and Milesian. As Apollonius, the author of the Argonautics, was styled with propriety both an Alexandrian and a Rhodian, because he was born at Alexandria, and had resided at Rhodes; and as Herodotus, commonly described as an Halicarnassian, yet is said from the place of his subsequent residence, to have been also called a Thurian; so Hellanicus, who at different periods *may* have lived both in Lesbos and at Miletus, may have been occasionally distinguished by appellations derived from both. This supposition will at least cut, if it does not completely solve, the difficulty. We may be otherwise inclined to suppose Suidas (a case likewise far from being improbable) to have laboured under some error in the article in which he speaks of Hellanicus, the Milesian.

The correspondent whose observations have given occasion to these remarks, mentions the catalogue of historians preceding Herodotus, given in the Athenæum, as imperfect. The list might easily have been increased. But it was not the writer's intention to produce every obscure name in the remote periods of Greek literature, where little more than a name could be produced. Hecataeus and Hellanicus were certainly the most important of the very ancient writers of history, if we may judge from the frequency with which they are mentioned. To the names before given might be added those of Cadmus, Acusilaus, Charon, Pherecydes, Amelesagoras, and Damastes, together with a few others of still more profound obscurity. Cadmus and Acusilaus
are

are placed by Josephus a little before the Persian war. The former was a Milesian, the latter an Argive. Cadmus is said by Pliny to have been the first writer of prose among the Greeks; the same is said by others of Hecataeus. Acusilaus seems to have been little more than a prose writer of mythology and genealogy. Charon, of Lampsacus, wrote two books respecting the Persian wars, and other historical works mentioned by Suidas. He is supposed to have lived about the 75th Olympiad. Pherecydes, of Leros, flourished about the time of the invasion of Greece by Xerxes. He was the author of a work bearing the title of *Autochthones*, which was divided into ten books, and seems to have been principally employed in tracing the genealogies of the Athenian families. Marcellinus, in his life of Thucydides, quotes a passage from it, on the authority of Didymus, deducing the genealogy of Miltiades from Ajax. Amelesagoras is said to have flourished before Hellanicus, the latter writer having made an undue use of his works. Damastes, of Sigeum, was the son of Dioxippus, and lived in circumstances of affluence. He wrote on many subjects, among the rest, respecting the parents and ancestors of the chiefs who went against Troy. These are the most important particulars of the few that are known concerning the historians who preceded Herodotus. The late period of the commencement of prose composition among the Greeks is worthy of notice. Homer flourished, it is probable, nine centuries before the Christian æra. It is not till after an interval of nearly four centuries that the first traces of prose appear.

Thucydides was born in the seventy-seventh Olympiad, about thirteen years after Herodotus. He was the son of Olorus or Orolus, for the ancients differ respecting the orthography of this name. He was related to the family of Miltiades, but the exact degree of his kindred is unknown. The name of his father, being that of a Thracian prince, bespeaks his connexion with Thrace, in which country he informs us that he possessed gold mines, and had great influence with the chiefs of the people. In rhetoric, the Greek biographers tell us that he received the instructions of Antiphon, in philosophy those of Anaxagoras. He gave an early proof of a generous emulation of spirit, by shedding tears, on hearing Herodotus recite his history at Olympia. The historian observing the circumstance, is said to have congratulated the father of Thucydides on the promising disposition of his son, who manifested a mind eager for learning, *προς τα μαθηματα οργυστα*. On the commencement of the Peloponnesian war, Thucydides was at Athens, and in the dreadful pestilence which ensued, and the ravages of which in his second book he has so energetically described, bore his share of the general calamity. In the eighth year of that war he had a command in Thrace, and being unsuccessful, was sentenced to exile, fortunately for the world, if the leisure which resulted from this disgrace induced and enabled him to collect the materials which formed the basis of his immortal history. The disaster which raised the indignation of the Athenians against their

their commander was the capture of Amphipolis by Brasidas, the Spartan general, an event which, according to the account given of it by Thucydides himself, it does not seem to have been within the possibility of his exertion to prevent. His exile continued twenty years, which he spent in different parts of Greece, chiefly occupied in the careful investigation of the events which he has recorded in his work, sparing no labour in the enquiry, and having conversed with the principal actors in them on each side. The time and place of his death are unknown. It is probable, however, that he reached an advanced period of age. Dodwell conjectures, but on no certain grounds, that he died in Thrace, having passed the eightieth year of his life.

D.

ERRATUM

P. 226, l. 18, for *Milesian*, read *Lesbian*.

ACCOUNTS OF, AND EXTRACTS FROM, RARE AND CURIOUS BOOKS.

PARTICULARS OF THE DEATH OF ALBERIC DE ROMANO,
BROTHER OF EZZELIN THE TYRANT.—FROM “HISTO-
RIA TRIVIGIANA DI GIOV. BONIFACCIO.” TRIVIGI.
1591.

IN the interesting memoir of Ezzelino da Romano, published in the first volume of the *Athenæum*, p. 605, the dreadful circumstances attending the death of his brother and extirpation of his race have been already mentioned; and it may, therefore, seem to require some apology that I now offer any addition to that account. But there appears to me something so singularly impressive in the catastrophe, as detailed with all its particulars by the historian now before me, that I hope the following extracts will be judged no impertinent dilation of the former detail.

After the unexpected death of Ezzelin (see p. 614, vol. 1.) the revolution which *immediately* took place at Trivigi too plainly assured his brother that his former power and influence had entirely depended on the secret support of the elder tyrant, and that his only safety would be in some one of those impregnable fortresses which the rulers of the house of Romano had scattered over the Marca Trevigiana. That of San Zenone, situated among the mountains, very near the town of Bassano, and almost within sight of the old castle of Romano, the cradle of his family, was selected as his place of refuge; and

and no sooner had he effected his retreat, than the people of Trivigi asserted their new liberties by the election of a Podestà in the person of Marco Badoano, a noble Venetian. The first act of this magistrate was to pronounce a decree of confiscation against all the effects of Ezzelin remaining within the district of Trevigi; to which was added, a similar sentence against those of Alberic; that tyrant himself being at the same time formally banished for life, together with his wife and children, "under penalty, in case of their return and arrest, of his being dragged at the tails of horses through the streets of the city and impaled, and his wife and children burned; with an express condition that no remission of this sentence should at any time be permitted; and that no man should presume to controvert the justice of the same under pain of being in like manner banished, his goods confiscated, and himself otherwise personally punished at the direction of the Podestà."

But Alberic, notwithstanding the extreme rigour of this sentence, which made him tremble, yet ("so entirely was the practice of evil converted into a habit of his mind, and become part of his very nature,") having failed in some attempts to effect a reconciliation with the new government, began to send out his people from time to time to infest and despoil the inhabitants of the surrounding villages. The Podestà of Bassano, being informed of these ravages, committed acts of retaliation on the territories of San Zenone; and these petty broils at last led to an action, which took place on the 3d of February, 1260, in which Alberic routed the people of the Podestà, and carried off several prisoners (who were afterwards set free) and a considerable booty of arms and horses into San Zenone.

This event determined the people of Trivigi to the adoption of more vigorous measures against the banished tyrant. The former sentence was published with the ringing of bells; the magnificent palace of Alberic in the Piazza del Duomo was levelled with the ground, the ditches filled up, and ramparts destroyed. "Not contented with this, but remembering the past insolencies and wickednesses of the family, they formed a league with the Paduans, Venetians, Vicentines, and the people of Forli, to extirpate Alberic and his whole generation; being well aware, that in the persons of his children there existed a nest of future mischiefs in the revival of old connexions and the perpetuity of established animosities." Under the orders of this league an army was speedily formed for the destruction of San Zenone.

"The castle was situated between the territories of Trevigi and Bassano, and was constructed on a rock partly by art and partly by the hand of nature, girt with a strong and lofty wall, flanked by many solid towers, and surrounded with a deep and ample ditch. In the middle of it stood the residence of its lord, most magnificently constructed with a number of stately apartments; and in the very heart of this palace arose an exceedingly fair and strong tower, which looked down with disdain on all things below, containing within itself
all

all manner of arms and provisions to sustain a siege: in like manner the castle was amply furnished with the necessary means of defence, and guarded by fifty German and as many Italian soldiers, Alberic himself having moreover about his own person twenty gentlemen of his familiar friends and counsellors.

"The troops of the league made many and powerful assaults upon this castle, using every art and every endeavour to accomplish its capture, but in vain. At last, however, the siege having already endured for several months, and already the best part of the men posted within the fortress having been put to the sword; provisions beginning to fail; no hopes of succour from any quarter; and the besiegers, on the other hand, receiving daily supplies of men and stores, being above all strengthened by the accession of the Marquis of Este, with a considerable number of soldiers; the engineer of Alberic, who was himself a German, seeing their destruction inevitable, exhorted his comrades not to wait the certain capture of the place (when they would all without fail be put to the sword) but to save their lives, while it yet remained possible, by the voluntary surrender of the castle. This advice was given, and their resolution thereupon made, on the 21st day of August in the year above-mentioned.

Alberic, finding himself thus betrayed, and out of all hopes of safety, his enemies already entering the gates of the surrendered castle, retreated, nevertheless, with his wife and children and a few of his most intimate friends, to the very summit of the tower, from whence, wherever he cast his eyes, he saw only infinite crowds of people waiting on the outside to ensure his total destruction and that of all his race. Three days did he pass with this cheerless prospect constantly before his eyes; and now all his food was exhausted, and, abandoned by hope and fortitude, he bewailed in floods of tears his miserable fate. At length, after many lamentations and many sighs, despairing of every thing, he broke out into these melancholy words:

"Ah, wretched that I am! Must I, then, with all my family, miserably perish here? And is there no mean of escape left me, none at all? Unhappy and inauspicious castle, in an evil hour erected by my brother Ezzelin! Obstinate and ill-advised Ezzelin, who when he might have governed so great possessions in peace and happiness, made himself the prey of our remorseless enemies! which, had it happened to him alone, as was just, might have been borne; but why must I, too, undergo the penalty due to his errors and to his vices? Why must I submit to the cruel fate now prepared for me, and perhaps, too, for thee, my most dear wife, and you my beloved and innocent children? Knowing the infallible predictions of our mother* concerning

* Adelaide, of the family of the Counts of Mangone, in Tuscany, called Rabbiosi, who married Ezzelin the monk, father of Ezzelin III. (the tyrant) and Alberic. "She was a lady of great learning, and so well versed in judicial astrology, that among various other things of which she obtained a clear presentiment,

concerning the calamities destined for us in this very castle, why didst thou, oh Ezzelin, so adorn and fortify it for our destruction? Without that, I never should have imprisoned myself in this wretched place, where I am now doomed to witness the terrible end of all I love. Now a multitude of people, thirsting for my blood, surrounds this little fortress, and it is become impossible to resist so overwhelming a force. Our German guards have betrayed us; those in whom I put my trust have perfidiously deceived me; they have let in our enemies; and we, alone, reduced to the defence of this single tower (already undermined and beaten down on every side) cut off from all hope, what could I do for your good, my children; but sit down, and regret the past, and bitterly bewail the present; hurled from the lofty pinnacle of happiness, in a short momentary space, into the abyss of misery and despair? Yet, since it so pleases God, for myself, I will bear with constancy torments and death. But how much more grievous will the sufferance be, if our enemies seek also to riot in your blood, my all of life and comfort? I, at least, have now reached the last sad moment of my existence—I am about to leave you, my dear wife, and my children; I am going mournfully to leave you, and see you no more: Let me embrace you; let me kiss you, for the last time; never to embrace you, or kiss you, or see you again. You, my dearest, dearest sons, I trust in God, will survive me: to you I commend the remembrance of me; and I confide in you that you will avenge me on my enemies, and follow the example of your ancestors, never to let so great an injury sleep in your memories. In Tuscany you will be cherished by your kinsmen, the Counts of Mangone: all Lombardy over, you will find friends and favourers of your race: avail yourselves of their assistance, and you will have the means of washing away every stain in the blood of our persecutors—so God preserve you, and favour your designs!"

All these things he said with great passion and vehemence of grief, and most attentively did his wife and young sons listen to them; at last, overcome with excessive sorrow, he threw himself on his bed, around which stood Margaret his wife, John, Alberic, Romano, Hugolino, Ezzelin, Cormasco, Griselda, and Amabilia, his children, who in like manner affected with extreme misery, joined in a strange and horrible harmony of sighs, sobs, and lamentations. Soon afterwards came one who informed them that a great breach was made in the tower from beneath, and that their enemies were pouring in through the gates; thereupon Alberic raised himself from the bed, and addressing the few friends who were with him in the apartment, said, "My

sentiment, she also knew and foretold the ruin of her sons, writing her predictions respecting them in Latin verses. On this account she fell into a profound melancholy, and died in the 50th year of her age." Besides her two sons, she had by the monk, her husband, four daughters also, of whom the youngest, named Cunissa, has the honour of being celebrated, for her amiable qualities, by Dante, in his *Purgatorio*.

"My dear companions, who to this the last hour of life have been the constant and faithful followers of my varying fortunes, may it please God that you suffer not through my obstinacy: hoist, therefore, the signal of surrender, and entreat the Marquis Azo, that in memory of our past friendship, and for the love which he bears to Rinaldo his son and my daughter's husband, he will take me and my wife and my little ones to himself as his prisoners, and set you free, preserving all our lives, and defending us from the fury of this mad multitude."

Lodovico Bolognese, the secretary of Alberic, knowing that any delay would be fatal, immediately obeyed his lord, and hoisting out of the window a white shirt upon a spear's head, as a signal of surrender, offered the Podestà of Trivigi to give into his hands Alberic, his wife, and children, on condition of preserving their lives. This, however, the Podestà would by no means promise, saying, he had no commission from the people of Trevigi to do so; when Lodovico, having in vain made repeated and urgent remonstrances to be allowed a parley with the Marquis, and seeing that the enemy pressed forwards, and that in another moment he might not be able to bargain even for his own life and those of his other companions, gave up Alberic and his whole family unconditionally into the hands of the besiegers. The last scene of this dismal tragedy need not be repeated. After the massacre was over, the castles of S. Zeno and of Romano were levelled with the ground. "And thus did the divine justice which had sent this wicked race into the world to be a scourge to the enormous vices of the people, at last relent at their earnest prayers and contrition, turning itself into mercy and compassion, severely chastening the authors of so many evils, and redeeming so many unhappy sufferers from their long and grievous bondage."

MEMOIRS OF DISTINGUISHED PERSONS.

MEMOIR OF CARDINAL BORGIA.

STEPHEN BORGIA, a Roman cardinal, was born of a noble family at Velletri in 1731, and, as the second son of the house, he was from his very birth designed for the clerical dignities. It is a common thing in Italy to see family abbeys, commanderies, or prelatures, founded in the course of the last three centuries, which, from one generation to another, either the second or the third son of a house, by the laws of the foundation, is entitled to enjoy; and the family of Borgia is in this predicament; for, about the middle of the 17th century, an individual of that house founded a family prelature, to which the second, or, in case of abdication, the third son of the house is invited. The subject of this memoir, therefore, in his very earliest youth,

youth, was sent to Rome, to begin the career for which he was designed.

Nothing particular is recorded of the life of Monsignor Borgia in his youth, except, perhaps, his assiduity in study, and his predilection for historic and diplomatic science, for what, in opposition to the Greek and the Roman, might be called *barbaric* antiquity, for oriental learning and exotic languages.

His public life, as well as his literary exertions, began about 1770, when he was appointed secretary to the congregation of *Propaganda*, and when, likewise, he laid the first foundations of his unrivalled museum in Velletri.

The celebrated congregation which we have just mentioned may, to narrow and bigotted minds, appear an institution tending to perpetuate or diffuse superstition; but to philosophers and philanthropists, by whom the introduction of Christianity, under any shape, into barbarous and savage nations, is considered as a principle of civilization, the institution will appear in a different point of view; and, in this light, no commendation, perhaps, will be thought too great for those persons who were its founders. Into this great college children are admitted from the several parts of Asia and Africa, in order to be there instructed in religion, and to diffuse it, on their return, through their native countries. The prelates charged with the secretaryship of this establishment had always been men of first-rate learning; and, at the vacancy to which we now allude, the charge could not be committed to a more competent man than Monsignor Borgia.

The first exertions of the new secretary evinced his singular zeal for promoting the purposes of the institution, for, under his auspices, in the very year 1771, the abbé Amaduzzi, director of the printing-house of the college, procured the casting of the Malabar types, and published some works in that language, as well as in those of the Indians of Ava and of Pegu. By the cares of the new secretary, also, an Etruscan alphabet was published, which soon proved of the highest benefit to Passeri; for, by its means, this celebrated antiquary, in the last part of his life, could better explain than he had ever done some Etruscan monuments of the highest interest.

To this epoch also is to be referred the foundation of the family museum in Velletri. From 1773 to 1780, it was rendered so rich as to exhibit no less than eighty ancient Egyptian statues in bronze or in marble, many Etruscan and Greek idols, numberless ancient coins and medals, many till then unknown, some struck in the ancient Velletri itself, a prodigious number of antique masks, pateras, lamps, rings, &c., and, in fine, upwards of four hundred Greek and Latin sacred or profane inscriptions. To form some idea of the total of the museum, it may be observed that only a small part of it, relative to Arabic antiquity, was the subject of the description which, in 1782, was published under the title of "*Musæum Cusicum*."

That was also the epoch in which Monsignor Borgia appeared as an author and editor; for, in 1775 and 1778, he published two works

on subjects of erudition, for the titles of which the writer has in vain looked into many Italian catalogues; and, in 1781, he edited a Fragment, in the Coptic language, of the acts of St. Coluthus the martyr, from a manuscript of the fifth century.

Whilst intent on these occupations, he had not lost sight of what he thought necessary for the improvement of the Propaganda; for he had been engaged on two important objects, which were respectively disclosed in 1782 and 1784, each of which would entitle him to celebrity.

An island, near Venice, is inhabited by Armenian monks; and those fathers make use of no other language than their own: they avail themselves of the art of printing only for the purpose of publishing rituals and devotional books, in Armenian; and in such books they carry on extensive commerce through the East. At the period to which we allude, they had published some Dictionaries for the Armenian language only, much on the same plan as that of *La Crusca*, with respect to the Italian. No one, however, had until then thought of going to pass some time among these fathers, with a view of learning, to perfection, their language, naturally rich and fertile, useful to civil and ecclesiastic history, to geography and history, and especially tending by its analogies to throw light upon the ancient Median or Zend tongue. It was reserved for Monsignor Borgia to see all these objects in their proper light: he engaged a Capuchin, named Father Gabriele, of *Alexandria della Paglia*, to spend some time with these monks in learning the Armenian language; and afterwards to go on a mission to Astracan, to preach in Armenian, and to avail himself of that opportunity in compiling an Italian-Armenian and Armenian-Italian Dictionary. Father Gabriele fulfilled these injunctions; and, on his return, he delivered the Dictionary into the hands of the librarian of the Propaganda. To the great regret of the literary world, the Dictionary was never published; but we may entertain hopes that sooner or later it will be.

We shall now view this prelate in the capacity of historian and diplomatist; and the work which we are about to mention is that production of his which engaged most notice in Italy. In 1788 he published his "Vindication of the Rights of the Holy See on the Kingdom of Naples," in a large 4to volume. The kingdom of Naples, from its very beginning, had been under the paramount sovereignty of the church. The Norman conquerors, erecting that dominion on the verge of two empires, had been, in the first instance, impeded in their progress both by the eastern and western empires; they had successively been impeded even by the court of Rome, which claimed it as an assignment from the emperor of the west. The expedition and the captivity of Pope Leo IX. are too well known to be related in this place. The Normans, after their victory, found it suitable to their convenience to acknowledge the paramount dominion of the church over their conquests; for those districts having undoubtedly belonged to one or other of the two empires, they felt the difficulty of entirely emancipating

emancipating themselves from any sort of vassalage; and they thought that the only way of extricating themselves from that difficulty was, to acknowledge the sovereignty of the pope who, from his limited and precarious temporal power, could never prove a dangerous adversary. It was absolutely impossible for the crown of Naples to get rid of this servitude in the immediately subsequent age, when the popes were in the meridian of their authority, and when even some other states of Europe were submitted to their paramount sovereignty as *Regna oblata*. It was likewise extremely difficult to attain this object in more enlightened times; for the weakness, superstition, and even self-interest of the court of Spain, could give no rise to such an idea. At the renewal of the monarchy, the Neapolitan government had conceived this project, which, however, was disclosed only in 1788, when his Sicilian majesty abolished the delivery of the white horse to his holiness, on St. Peter's day, as a token of feudal vassalage to the holy see. The emancipation was, perhaps, proper; but the Neapolitan ministers had not asserted it on a proper ground. Instead of maintaining, as, in our opinion, they ought to have done, that it was disgraceful for the Neapolitan crown to be still obnoxious to a servitude originating in the darkness and disorders of the middle ages, that the kingdom had lately been reconquered by the force of arms, and that it was not becoming the condition and character of clergymen to pretend to sovereignty over an independent government; they maintained, with the spirit of lawyers, that the court of Rome had never possessed a sovereignty in chief over the kingdom of Naples! This was absurd; and it consequently gave to the learned prelate the greatest advantage in the dispute. By producing more than twenty original grants, conceded from time to time to the kings of Naples, and proofs of the annual delivery of a white horse in token of fealty for more than seven centuries, he justly concluded that "nothing was better calculated to demonstrate the rights of the church than the Neapolitan publications on the subject." The writings of that ministry were indeed an object of ridicule in Italy; but, owing to the spirit of the times, it was said that "Borgia was an excellent advocate of a desperate cause."

On the 30th March, 1789, Monsignor Borgia was promoted to the cardinalate. He was then appointed prefect of the congregation of the *Index*; and, what was more analogous to his pursuits, he had a post in the similar magistracies for the Propaganda, and for the correction of the books of the oriental churches. As prefect of the *Index*, some well-intentioned but ill-informed persons had already conceived sanguine hopes that, under his liberal administration, the evil of the prohibition of books would be diminished, and that, consequently, in some future publication of that famous catalogue, a greater degree of liberality would be perceived. If they were disappointed, it was not the fault of the prelate. The Catholic communion is intolerant and exclusive, in its very constitution and essence; and it cannot possibly be otherwise. This point of fact ought, once for all, to be taken for granted;

granted; and, from its admission, the characters of individuals would be more fairly estimated. To impute to any of the ministers of the church of Rome a fault which, if the expression be not too harsh, is inherent to the church itself, is not only unfair, but absurd.

After these promotions, Cardinal Borgia continued to be a patron to all those persons who had any connection either with his offices or with his literary pursuits; and of these two only shall be here mentioned.

One was the well-known George Zoega, a Danish antiquary settled in Rome. He first had the permission to examine the several articles of the museum, and then the opportunity of indulging in those elaborate researches which he displayed in the "Description of the Egyptian Roman Medals." He was also indulged with inedited monuments and fragments, as well as with hints, to compose his still greater work "on the Origin and Use of Obelisks."

The other was the oratorian father, Simon de Magistris. The Cardinal, in the first instance, had procured him the place of perpetual secretary of the congregation relative to the correction of the books of the oriental churches; he had also enabled him, by means of a rare manuscript found in the library of prince Ghigi, to give a splendid Greek edition of Daniel, according to the version of the *Septuagint*. At the period to which we now refer, he granted him the most liberal patronage for rescuing from oblivion a rare manuscript relative to the ecclesiastical history of the primitive ages—the "Acta Martyrum ad ostia Tiberina ex MSS. codicæ Regiæ bibliothecæ Taurinensis," which was published in Rome in 1795. He likewise assisted him in the splendid edition of all the works of Dionysius the Great, bishop of Alexandria, which was published in 1796, in Greek and Latin, with an excellent preliminary discourse, intended to prove the authenticity of the works.

In the subsequent disasters, brought upon the Roman state by the French revolutionists, the Cardinal, like the greatest part of his colleagues, was involved in losses and dangers, both with respect to his fortune and to his pursuits. He forfeited all his benefices, and he was near witnessing the destruction of all the establishments committed to his care, especially the Propaganda. He was soon, however, extricated from his personal difficulties; and, by his timely measures, the invaluable literary treasures of the Propaganda were also saved. He was allowed a liberal pension from the court of Denmark, and he soon obtained the removal of the establishment of the Propaganda to Padua, a city which, being then under the dominion of the emperor of Germany, was thought to be sheltered from robbery. He engaged the celebrated orientalist, Father Paulinus (already attached to the establishment) to go thither in the capacity of assistant. And it was owing to his cares that the same friar, notwithstanding the difficulty of the times, published, if we recollect rightly, some new works on the Indian, Japanese, and Persian literature.

The timely reconquest of the Roman state by the Austrian and the Neapolitan

Neapolitan armies, towards the close of 1799, saved the Cardinal from what, in all probability, would, in his mind, have been the greatest of evils; as the celebrated riches of the Borgian museum, in Velletri, had already tempted the rapacity of the French. "It was desirable," said a member of the National Institute at the time, "should the collection become a property of the Republic by conquest, that it should be brought entire to Paris."

The Cardinal remained in Padua till the death of the unfortunate Pius VI.; after that event, like all the rest of his colleagues, he repaired to Venice, to attend the conclave there convoked; and like them also, on the election of the new pope, he returned to Rome. Nothing particular is recorded of him since that time, except that he was one of those public spirited members of the sacred college who prevailed on the new pope to replace, by new excavations, those unrivalled works of art which had fallen a prey to the rapacity of the French. Accordingly the pope, notwithstanding the reduction of his finances, and the distressed state of his remaining possessions, ordered that some subterraneous researches should be made at Ostia, which were soon crowned with success; and that some should likewise be made in the Campo Vaccino.

The Cardinal was also one of those individuals who were selected by the pope as the companions of his intended journey to Paris, to crown "his Imperial Corsican Majesty." It was, perhaps, no misfortune for Cardinal Borgia to be prevented by a timely death from witnessing that detestable religious farce; for, having caught a violent cold in his way to Paris, he died at Lyons, in Dec. 1804, in the 74th year of his age.

Cardinal Stephen Borgia was not much favoured by nature in respect to person. He was so clumsy, and his motions were so much embarrassed, as to make it difficult to fancy, on the first interview, that he was a person of birth and rank. He was far also from being nice in his house or equipages; and the *mauvais plaisans* were, in some measure, authorised to say that "the libraries and the archives had made him fond of dust and dirt." Happy, however, it was for him that for these small defects he could make the amplest amends by the superior qualities of his mind. From the time of Alexander Albani, no Roman Cardinal had so many respectable connections and correspondents in every part of Europe; and a great similarity (elegance of manners excepted) was remarked between the character of that illustrious prelate and his own.

F. D.

ORIGINAL POETRY.

THE BUTTERFLY'S BIRTH-DAY.

BY THE AUTHOR OF THE "BUTTERFLY'S BALL."

THE shades of night were scarcely fled;
 The air was mild, the winds were still;
 And slow the slanting sun-beams spread
 O'er wood and lawn, o'er heath and hill.

From fleecy clouds of pearly hue
 Had dropt a short but balmy shower,
 That hung like gems of morning dew,
 On every tree, and every flower.

And from the Blackbird's mellow throat
 Was pour'd so loud and long a swell,
 As echoed with responsive note
 From mountain side, and shadowy dell.

When bursting forth to life and light,
 The offspring of enraptur'd May,
 The BUTTERFLY, on pinions bright,
 Launch'd in full splendor on the day.

Unconscious of a mother's care,
 No infant wretchedness she knew;
 But as she felt the vernal air,
 At once to full perfection grew.

Her slender form, ethereal, light,
 Her velvet-textur'd wings enfold;
 With all the rainbow's colours bright,
 And dropt with spots of burnish'd gold.

Trembling with joy awhile she stood,
 And felt the sun's enlivening ray;
 Drank from the skies the vital flood,
 And wonder'd at her plumage gay;

And balanc'd oft her 'broider'd wings,
 Thro' fields of air prepar'd to sail;
 Then on her vent'rous journey springs,
 And floats along the rising gale.

Go, child of pleasure, range the fields,
 Taste all the joys that spring can give,
 Partake what bounteous summer yields,
 And live, whilst yet 'tis thine to live;

Go sip the rose's fragrant dew,
The lily's honied cup explore,
From flower to flower the search renew,
And rifle all the woodbine's store;

And let me trace thy vagrant flight,
Thy moments too of short repose,
And mark thee then with fresh delight
Thy golden pinions ope and close.

But hark! whilst thus I musing stand,
Pours on the gale an airy note;
And, breathing from a viewless band,
Soft silvery tones around me float!

—They cease—but still a voice I hear,
A whisper'd voice of hope and joy,
“Thy hour of rest approaches near,
“Prepare thee, mortal!—Thou must die!

“Yet start not;—on thy closing eyes
“Another day shall still unfold,
“A sun of milder radiance rise,
“A happier age of joys untold.

“Shall the poor worm that shocks thy sight,
“The humblest form in nature's train,
“Thus rise in new-born lustre bright,
“And yet the emblem teach in vain?

“Ah, where were once her golden eyes,
“Her glittering wings of purple pride?
“Conceal'd beneath a rude disguise,
“A shapeless mass to earth allied.

“Like thee the hapless reptile liv'd,
“Like thee he toil'd, like thee he spun,
“Like thine his closing hour arriv'd,
“His labours ceas'd, his web was done.

“And shalt thou, number'd with the dead,
“No happier state of being know?
“And shall no future morrow shed
“On thee a beam of brighter glow?

“Is this the bound of power divine,
“To animate an insect frame?
“Or shall not he who moulded thine
“Wake at his will the vital flame?

“—Go, mortal! in thy reptile state,
“Enough to know to thee is given;
“Go, and the joyful truth relate;
“Frail child of earth! high heir of heaven!”

SONNETS.

I.

SWEET is thy coming, Spring!—and as I pass
 Thy hedge-rows, where from the half-naked spray
 Peeps the sweet bud, and 'midst the dewy grass
 The tufted primrose opens to the day:
 My spirits light and pure confess thy pow'r
 Of balmiest influence: there is not a tree
 That whispers to the warm noon-breeze; nor flow'r
 Whose bell the dew-drop holds, but yields to me
 Predestinings of joy: O heavenly sweet
 Illusion!—that the sadly pensive breast
 Can for a moment from itself retreat
 To outward pleasantness, and be at rest:
 While sun, and fields, and air, the sense have wrought
 Of pleasure and content, in spite of thought!

II.

O Fairy? that dost twine around my heart,
 What shall I name thee? language cannot tell
 How beautiful in innocence thou art:
 And these emotions that with rapture swell
 My bosom, mock the power of utterance:
 Dear infant girl! thy rosiness of cheek,
 The laughing azure of thy wily glance,
 Those yellow locks that lightly waving break
 O'er thy white shoulder, and that lip of rose
 Which in soft laughter's ravishing ecstasy
 Thy snowy teeth in early blossom shows,
 Are not the phantoms of a parent's eye:
 I could e'en pity him, that should behold
 Thy beauties, with an aspect strange and cold.

III.

Beneath these beetling cliffs, that many an age
 Have whiten'd to the sun; that have withstood
 The whirlwind's hail-stone rush, the forked rage
 Of thunder, and the dashings of the flood;
 I sit: and far into the blue clear sky
 Bend my lone gaze: or mark the sea-gull sail
 Along the shadow'd sands, and tranquilly
 The green surge heave in the slow-rippling gale:
 O native impulse! yes, I feel thee now!
 My heart expands in freedom: who could rest
 Beneath this giant rock's o'erhanging brow
 That flings its darkness o'er the billow's breast;
 Could gaze yon boundless amplitude of sea,
 Yon marble space of air—and not be free?

ANTHOCLES.

STANZAS

TO MR. BENJAMIN GIBSON, SURGEON, MANCHESTER.

OH, GIBSON ! ere those orbs of thine
 Receiv'd the sun's resplendent light,
 In far-off regions these of mine
 With many a pang were clos'd in night;
 And in this soul-subduing plight,
 Forlorn I reach'd my native shore,
 Where some, extoll'd for talents bright,
 Believ'd my days of vision o'er.

From men of skill on Mersey's strand,
 Whose fam'd solution nought avail'd,
 To men of skill throughout the land
 I pass'd—but ev'ry effort fail'd.
 Time pac'd along: and now assail'd
 By ills that oft on blindness wait,
 I felt, yet neither crouch'd nor wail'd,
 But with firm silence bore my fate.

When first creation's forms withdrew,
 The tones of hope were sweet and clear;
 But soon they faint, and fainter grew,
 Then gently died upon the ear:
 And thus, in rosy youth's career,
 Was I of light and hope bereft,
 Thus doom'd to penury severe,
 Thus to the world's hard buffets left.

Now more than thirty times the globe
 Had round the sun her progress made,
 Since nature, in a dark grey robe,
 To these sad eyes had been array'd;
 When lo! by rigorous duty sway'd,
 To thee, O Gibson, I applied,
 And soon by thy transcendant aid
 The new-form'd op'ning, light supplied.

Oh, what a contrast! thus to rise
 From dungeon darkness into day!
 To view again yon azure skies,
 And all the bloomy flush of May;
 Through busy streets to wind my way,
 And many a long-lost form to mark,
 Oh! what a heaven do these display,
 Compared with ever-during dark.

To me the seasons roll'd all gloom,
 But now the vast creation glows;
 With bliss the hawthorn's silvery bloom
 I view, and summer's blushing rose;
 With bliss, when with'ring autumn blows,
 The leaves slow falling I descry,
 And mark amidst the wintry snows
 The flakes in whirling eddies fly.

Before thy pow'rs to me were known,
 My steps some friendly arm would guide;
 But now, 'midst piping winds, alone
 I range the country far and wide.
 And oft while tow'ring vessels glide,
 And skiffs athwart the white waves steer,
 I mark them as I skirt the tide,
 And fearless walk the crowded pier.

What tho' the light bestow'd by thee
 Is not the light of former days,
 Tho' mists envelope all I see,
 Yet take, oh! take, my heartfelt praise;
 For was not I from heav'n's blest rays
 Shut out through many a rolling year?
 And oft rememb'ring this I gaze,
 Till feeling pours the grateful tear.

Oh! thou hast wrought a wond'rous change,
 Hast usher'd me to light once more,
 Hast giv'n the mighty power to range
 Through mental paths unknown before;
 Hast plac'd within my grasp the lore
 Of ancient and of modern days,
 And while I thus delighted pore,
 Shall I forget a Gibson's praise?

When the lov'd partner of my woe,
 And all our young ones I survey,
 Can I forget to whom I owe
 Those joys that through my bosom play?
 No, Gibson! ev'ry passing day
 Declares the debt I owe to thee;
 Declares, whatever spleen may say,
 The wonders thou hast done for me.

She who has long her seaman mourn'd,
 As laid beneath the waves at rest,
 Yet now beholds the bark return'd,
 And once more folds him to her breast,

Oh,

Oh, she who thus has been distress'd,
 And thus the highest bliss has known,
 Oh, she my woes can fancy best,
 And judge my transport by her own.

EDWARD RUSHTON.

Liverpool.

LITERARY AND MISCELLANEOUS INFORMATION.

An Officer who accompanied the Expedition under Sir John Moore is about to publish some Letters written from Spain and Portugal, during the March of the British Troops, under that lamented Commander. The Letters will be illustrated by a Map of the Route, and appropriate Engravings.

The Natural and Civil History of Chili, by the Abbé Molina, will be published in the course of the ensuing month, with Notes by an English Editor.

Miss A. M. Porter has a new Novel in the press, entitled, *Don Sebastian, or the House of Braganza*. It will extend to four volumes.

Dr. Carey has in the press, and will speedily publish, an easy and familiar Introduction to English Prosody and Versification, on a novel but simple plan, which he has for some time successfully pursued with his private pupils, and lately introduced into the female seminary at Canonbury, Islington. Besides descriptions and analyses of the different species of English verse, and preparatory exercises in scanning, it contains practical exercises in versification, progressively accommodated to the various capacities of youth in the successive stages of scholastic education; the whole calculated to produce correctness of ear, and taste in reading or writing poetry. For the convenience of teachers, a Key to the exercises will be added. Dr. Carey is also preparing for the press, an easy Introduction to Latin Versification, on a nearly similar plan.

Dr. Mavor is about to publish a Series of Catechisms on popular subjects. The Mother's Catechism, a Catechism of Health, and another on General Knowledge, will appear in a few days, and be followed in rapid succession by others on English History, Universal History, Geography, Animated Nature, Botany, the Laws and Constitution of England, the Bible, &c. They are intended to sell separately, or to form, when collected, two very neat pocket volumes.

Mr. THELWALL is preparing for publication "An Essay on the Causes and probable Consequences of the Decline of Popular Talent; addressed to the serious consideration of the Senate and the Bar:" which, besides a full discussion of the principal Desiderata in the existing plans of liberal Education, will contain Critical Delineations of the Characters, Talents, Eloquence, and Oratorical Endowments of the late Right Hon. Edmund Burke, William Pitt, Charles James Fox, &c.

Mr. Thelwall has also in the press a formal announcement (intended to be circulated through all the Colleges, Public Institutions, and Literary Societies of the United Kingdom) of the Plan of his Institution for the Cure of Impediments, Cultivation of Oratory, and Preparation of Youth for the higher departments of Active Life; together with Proposals for the further Extension of the Advantages of his System of Instruction.

Mr. De LUI, F.R.S. will shortly publish an Elementary Treatise on Geology; containing an Examination of some modern Geological Systems, and more particularly of the Huttonian Theory of the Earth. This work is translated from the French Manuscripts, by the Rev. H. De la Fite, M.A. of Trinity College, Oxford, and will form an octavo volume.

Mr. Yorick Wilson, Veterinary Surgeon, of Lemington, near Warwick, has in the press an improved Practical Treatise on Farriery, entitled, *The Gentleman's Veterinary Monitor*. It is the result of his own experience in the various diseases of Horses, and prescribes humane and rational methods of cure, without the assistance of a Farrier. It likewise treats on breeding, training, riding, management on a journey and in the stable, &c. The work will appear in a few days, portable size.

A Silver

A Silver Medal, in commemoration of the Abolition of the Slave Trade, designed and executed by eminent Artists, has, we understand, been presented to the British Museum by some Gentlemen for the above purpose. On one side there is a portrait of William Wilberforce, Esq. M. P. from a model taken by his permission: on the reverse are several figures, happily expressive of the truly Christian act of our Legislature in putting an end to that iniquitous traffic.

Dr. Sterney is about to publish a Treatise on Local Inflammation, particularly as applied to the Eye.

F. Hardy, Esq. is printing a Life of the late Earl of Charlemont; comprising a View of the Affairs of Ireland during an interesting and important period.

Mr. Thomas Hope has long been preparing for publication a collection of Designs, descriptive of the Costume of the Ancients. The work will contain 160 engravings in outline, preceded by an introduction, and will form two volumes quarto.

Mr. Drew, author of an Essay on the Immateriality and Immortality of the Soul, is about to publish an Essay on the Identity and general Resurrection of the Human Body.

The Clarendon press is at present engaged on an edition of the Ionic Lexicon of *Æmilius Portus*, designed to accompany the edition of *Herodotus*, lately published by Mr. Cook.

The so long announced fifty-two Lectures on the Church Catechism. By the Rev. Sir Adam Gordon, Bart. Prebendary of Bristol, and Rector of West Tilbury, will be published this month, in 2 vols. 8vo.

The Author of *All the Talents* and the Comet, has announced a Poem, entitled *The Statesman*, which will contain Biographical Sketches of Mr. Pitt, Mr. Fox, Lord Nelson, &c.

MONTHLY LIST OF NEW PUBLICATIONS.

BIOGRAPHY.

Memoirs of the Life and Writings of Percival Stockdale; containing many interesting Anecdotes of the illustrious Men with whom he was connected. 2 vols. 8vo. 11. 1s. boards.

Authentic and interesting *Memoirs of Mrs. Clarke*, from her infancy to the present time. Likewise a faithful Account of Mr. Wardle's Charges relative to his Royal Highness the Duke of York; together with the Minutes of Evidence complete, as taken in the House of Commons, from authentic documents. 8vo. 12s. boards.

Memoirs of Mrs. Clarke, from the Age of Fifteen to the present time. 8vo. 2s. 6d.

The Booksellers who have undertaken the republication of the *Old English Chronicles*, of which *Holinshed* and *Hall* have already appeared, have determined upon reprinting also *Purchase's Pilgrims*, *Hakluyt's Voyages*, and *Fuller's Worthies of England*.

DRAMA.

Pætus and Arria; a Tragedy: to which is prefixed, a Letter to Thomas Sheridan, Esq. on the present State of the English Stage. 8vo. 2s. 6d.

EDUCATION.

Grammatical Questions, adapted to the Grammar of L. Murray; with Notes for the Use of those who have made some Progress in the Study of the English Language. By C. Bradley. 2s.

HISTORY.

The Rise and Fall of States and Empires; or, the Antiquities of Nations; more particularly of the Celtæ, or Gauls. Containing great variety of Historical, Chronological, and Etymological Discoveries, many of them unknown both to the Greeks and Romans: with Tables of Greek, Latin, and Teutonic Words, which are taken from the Celtic Language. By M. Pezron. Foolscap 8vo. 7s. 6d. boards.

MEDICINE, SURGERY, &c.

Number VI. (to be continued quarterly) of the *London Medical Review*. 8vo. 2s. 6d.

Outline

Outlines of an Attempt to establish a Knowledge of extraneous Fossils on Scientific Principles. By Wm. Martin, F.L.S. author of Figures of Petrifications collected in Derbyshire. 8vo. 8s. boards.

A Grammar of Chemistry, in which the Principles are familiarized by easy and entertaining Experiments. By the Rev. D. Blair, author of the Grammar of Philosophy. 3s. 6d. bound.

A Practical Materia Medica, in which the various articles are fully described, and divided into Classes and Orders according to their effects. 12mo. 5s. boards.

A Dictionary of Practical Surgery; containing a complete Exhibition of the present State of the Principles and Practice of Surgery. By Samuel Cooper, Member of the Royal College of Surgeons London, and author of the First Lines of the Practice of Surgery. 8vo. 15s. boards.

MISCELLANIES.

The History of Don Francisco de Miranda's Attempt to effect a Revolution in South America; in a Series of Letters. By James Biggs. 8vo. 7s. 6d. boards.

A circumstantial Report of the Evidence and Proceedings upon the Charges preferred against his Royal Highness the Duke of York, in the capacity of Commander in Chief, in the months of February and March, 1809, by G. L. Wardle, Esq. M. P. before the honourable House of Commons; including the whole of the original Letters of the Duke of York, the Speeches correctly taken in full, of the various Members, with all the other documents produced in the course of the Investigation, and the Decision of the House of Commons upon this very important subject. 8vo. 14s. 6d. boards.

Latin Synonyms, with their different Significations and Examples taken from the best Latin Authors, by M. J. B. Gardin Dumesnil, Lat. Professor of Rhetoric in the College of Harcourt, and Principal of the College of Lewis the Great, in the university of Paris. Translated into English, with Additions and Corrections, by the Rev. J. M. Gosset. 8vo. 15s. boards.

Metaphysical Essays; containing the Principles and fundamental Objects of that Science, with some Considerations upon the Human Mind, &c. By Richard Kirwan, Esq. LL.D. F.R.S. President of the Royal Irish Academy, &c. author of Elements of Mineralogy, Geological Essays, and other works. 8vo. 12s. boards.

Greek Marbles, brought from the Shores of the Euxine, Archipelago, and Mediterranean, and deposited in the Vestibule of the Public Library of the University of Cambridge. By Edward Daniel Clarke, LL.D. late Fellow of Jesus College, and Professor of Mineralogy in that University. Royal 8vo. 5s. 6d. boards.

A Serious Admonition to his Royal Highness the Duke of York on the Evil Tendency of Corrupt Communication. 8vo. 4s. 6d.

Common Sense opposed to Folly; with Comparisons, Remarks, and ironical Hints for the better Government of Military Arrangements. 8vo.

Reflections on the Appointment of Dr. Milner, as the Political Agent of the Roman Catholic Clergy of Ireland. By the Rev. Thomas Elrington, D.D. late Senior Fellow of Trinity College, Dublin. Price 1s. 6d.

Thoughts and Remarks on establishing an Institution for the Support and Education of unfortunate respectable Females. By the Author of the Step Mother. 8vo. 7s. 6d. boards.

Lettres et Pensées du Marshal Prince de Ligne. Publiées par Madame la Baronne de Stael Holstein. 2 tomes, 12mo. 10s. boards.

Concise Admonitions for Youth. By William Paley, D.D. Archdeacon of Carlisle. 18mo. 2s. 6d. boards.

Antient Indian Literature, illustrative of the Researches of the Asiatic Society. 4to. 11. 1s. boards.

Literary Miscellanies. By James Mason, Esq. 2 vols. 8vo. 11. 5s. boards.

Summer Excursions through Parts of Oxfordshire, Gloucestershire, Warwickshire, Staffordshire, Herefordshire, Derbyshire, and South Wales. By E. J. Spence, author of the Nobility of the Heart, and the Wedding Day. 2 vols. 12mo. 10s. 6d. boards.

NOVELS.

NOVELS, ROMANCES, &c.

Ella St. Lawrence; or, the Village of Selwood, and its Inhabitants. By Mrs. Isaacs, author of the *Wood Nymph*, &c. 4 vols. 12mo. 1l. 2s. boards.
The Irish Guardian; or, Errors of Eccentricity. By Mrs. Mackenzie. 3 vols. 12mo. 15s. boards.

The English Brothers; or, Anecdotes of the Howard Family. 4 vols. 12mo. 1l. 1s. boards.

POETRY.

Gertrude of Wyoming; or, the Pennsylvanian Cottage, and other Poems. By Thomas Campbell, author of the *Pleasures of Hope*, &c. 4to. 1l. 5s. boards.

Horæ Ionica; a Poem, descriptive of the Ionian Islands and Part of the adjacent Coast of Greece; with a Postscript, containing Observations on the Romaic, or modern Greek Language, as spoken in the Ionian Islands. By Waller Rodwell Wright, Esq. some time his Britannic Majesty's Consul General for the Republic of the Seven Islands. 8vo. 4s. boards.

The Iliad of Homer, translated into English Blank Verse. By the Rev. James Morrice, A. M. late Student of Christ Church, Oxford; Rector of Betshanger, in the County of Kent, and Vicar of Flaver, Northamptonshire. 2 vols. 8vo. 1l. 1s. boards.

Poems sacred to Love and Beauty. By Hugh Downman, M. D. 2 vols. foolscap 8vo. 10s. 6d. boards.

An Heroic Epistle, addressed to G. L. Wardle, Esq. M. P. on the Charges preferred by him against his Royal Highness the Duke of York, and the Foundation of those Charges. By Mentor Britannicus. 4to. 2s. 6d.

Elegiac Tribute to the Memory of our much lamented Hero, Sir John Moore. By Mrs. Cockle. 4to. 2s. 6d.

Poemata Selecta Italorum, qui Seculo decimo Sexto Latine Scripserunt, Nonnullis Adnotationibus Illustrata. Post 8vo. 10s. 6d. boards.

Virgil Revindicated: being a free and candid Examination of Bishop Horsley's Tract on Virgil's Two Seasons of Honey: written in the Year 1807, in a Letter to the Rev. Mr. Pentecost, of Wallingford. By Henry Clarke, LL.D. Professor of Astronomy and Experimental Philosophy at Marlow. 4to. 4s. sewed.

Camilla de Florian, and other Poems. By an Officer's Wife. 12mo. 6s. boards.

THEOLOGY.

Treatises on the Seventy Years Captivity of the Jews, foretold by Jeremiah; and particularly on the Seventy Weeks Prophecy of Daniel, the Truth of which is at last demonstrated. With some Remarks on a different Subject of Scripture. By the Rev. J. Thorold, Rector of Kencot, Oxon. Price 2s.

A Letter from a Country Clergyman to his Parishioners; in which are considered, a few of the Arguments and Practices of some of the Modern Dissenters. By the Rev. John Nance, M. A. Chaplain to the Earl of Oxford and Mortimer, Fellow of Worcester College, Oxford, &c. Price 1s. 6d.

The Ecclesiastical and University Annual Register for the Year 1808, with an Appendix, &c. 8vo. 16s.

TOPOGRAPHY.

The Leominster Guide; containing an Historical and Topographical View of the ancient and present State of Leominster. 12mo. 6s.

A Tour through Cornwall, in the Autumn of 1808. By the Rev. Richard Warner, of Bath. 8vo. 9s. boards.

A Letter, addressed to Robert Hawker, D. D. Vicar of Charles, Plymouth. Suggested by his Defence of the London Female Penitentiary, recently established in the vicinity of Islington. By John Evans, A. M. 1s. 6d.

The Second Edition of an Address on the Baptism of Mr. Isaac Littleter, one of the Israelitish Nation, on his Profession of Christianity. To which is prefixed, an Account of his Conversion. By John Evans. 1s.

METEOROLOGICAL

METEOROLOGICAL TABLE.

	Wind.	Pressure.		Temp.		Evap.	Rain, &c
		max.	min.	max.	min.		
New Moon Mar. 16	NW	30.24	30.18	52°	42°	8	
a. 17	NW	30.18	30.15	56	43	6	
18	NE	30.15	30.05	55	37	.16	
b. 19	E	30.00	29.97	52	42	.14	2
c. 20	Var.	30.12	29.97	53	38	4	
21	E	30.13	30.08	53	39	3	
f. d. 22	S	30.13	29.94	66	37	.12	
g. d. 23	Var.	29.94	29.64	64	47	.21	1
1st Qr. b. 24	W	29.64	29.32	57	43	.10	.11
h. 25	SE	29.32	29.11	52	33	5	
c. 26	S	29.30	29.11	55	31	7	
i. 27	E	29.40	29.30	56	36	8	
k. 28	NE	29.71	29.40	56	40	6	.15
29	N	29.82	29.71	47	32	3	
30	NE	29.81	29.79	44	39	.11	
Full M. b. 31	NE	29.79	29.73	50	36	.21	
t. b. Apr. 1	N	29.80	29.71	45	30	.10	
m. 2	NW	29.90	29.78	45	27		
n. 3	NW	30.07	29.90	46	26		
n. 4	NW	30.29	30.07	43	24		
5	SW			44	26		
Last Qr. 6	SW	30.15		48	34	.26	.14
d. 7	Var.	30.33	30.15	50	31	7	
8	SW	30.33	30.12	49	34	.13	
9	SW	30.12	29.89	54	40	7	3
10	NW	29.89	29.53	56	45	.10	
11	N	29.77	29.37	53	30	7	.15
e. 12	SW	29.77	29.30	52	40	.13	3
o. 13	SW	29.30	29.09	53	37	.15	.10
		29.90	29.71	52.14	35.89	T. 2.63	0.74
		M. 29.81		44.01			

N. B. The Notations comprised in each line relate to a period of 24 hours, reckoned from 9 a. m. on the day of the date. A dash denotes that the period so marked is to form a part of that allotted to the next observation.

NOTES.

a. The bat and black beetle come abroad. The roads are become unpleasantly *dusty*.

b. Cloudy, windy.

c. c. Very misty mornings. The mist, as it broke away on the 27th, exhibited a faint white *bow* in the N.W.

d. Much dew.

e. Hoar frost.

f. About 7 p. m. a Meteor appeared suddenly in the W., and, descending with a slight inclination to the N.W. became extinct. This Meteor must have been large, or but little elevated, as it was much more conspicuous in the twilight than the planet Venus.

g. A. M. very clear atmosphere below: *Cirrus* cloud only above. This soon became *Cirro-cumulus*, and p. m. came down, as before thunder, with a dull red *halo* round the Moon. A shower, attended (it is said) with lightning, between 1 and 2 a. m.

h. Second anniversary of the ever-memorable Abolition of the Slave Trade.

i. Coloured cirrus at sun-set, and faint large lunar halo at night.

k. A thunder storm passed from W. to E. in the N. about 2 p. m.

l. Showers, mixed with hail p. m. At sun-set an extensive *blush* of rose-coloured haze, spreading on the face of an opaque twilight, the clouds beneath (mostly *cirro-stratus*) at the same time rapidly dispersing.

m. Showers of hail, or rather of those hard snow-balls which form its basis. A huge *Nimbus*, affording these balls, mixed with snow, passed over about sun-set: after which the haze, &c. of last evening were repeated.

n. n. Showers of the kind last mentioned. Many very distinct specimens of the *Nimbus* cloud.

o. Hail has appeared occasionally in the showers for the last few days. Stormy night.

RESULTS.

Winds variable.

Mean height of Barometer	-	29.81 In.
Thermometer	-	44.01°
Evaporation	- - - - -	2.63 In.
Rain	- - - - -	0.74 In.

Character, fair and warm to the first quarter: then cold, cloudy, and unfavourable to vegetation.

L. H.

Plaistow, 20th of 4th mo. 1809.

RESULTS

RESULTS of a METEOROLOGICAL REGISTER at MALTON in March.

Mean elevation of Barom. 29.95.—Max. 30.42.—Min. 29.00—Range, 1.42 In.
Thermom. 43.65°—Max. 62°—Min. 28°—Range, 34°

Rain, 0.45 Inches, the whole of which fell after the 23d. Total this Year, 8.66 Inches. Wet Days, 4. Stormy, 1. Hoar-frost and much rime from the 1st to the 9th.

Prevailing Winds, N. and E.

WIND.

N.	E.	N.E.	S.E.	S.	W.	S.W.	N.W.	Var.
8	2	7	5	1	2	2	1	3

Prevailing cloud, the *Cumulus*. The oblique *Cirrus* and the *Cirro-Stratus* have sometimes appeared; the former of which succeeded by wind, and the latter generally by wind and rain.*

The dense, fair, and dry weather which characterised the close of the last month, introduced the present, and continued, with little variation, to the 23d. The 24th and three succeeding days were wet and windy; and on the 28th a rapid and considerable decrease of Temperature took place, which, together with squalls from the North, and occasional smart showers of rain, hail, and sleet terminated the period. The atmosphere has been clearer, the wind more moderate, and the Pressure and Temperature not only higher, but, for the most part, more uniform than for some time past.

J. S. STOCKTON.

Malton, April 1, 1809.

* The intelligent Meteorologist is doubtless aware that these terms are adopted from Mr. Howard's very ingenious Nomenclature.—Vide his Treatise on the Modifications of Clouds, &c. or Rees's Cyclopædia, Article Cloud.

J. S. T.

INTELLIGENCE

RELATIVE TO ARTS, MANUFACTURES, &c.

Description of an Apparatus, for producing Inflammable Gas from Pit Coal, constructed by Mr. S. Clegg, Steam Engine Manufacturer, Manchester.

Trans. Soc. Arts, V. 26.

The Apparatus which Mr. Clegg has described in his communication to the Society for the encouragement of Arts, Manufactures, &c. is designed for producing gas to light manufactories on a large scale.

The cast iron retort, or vessel in which the coals are put to produce the gas, is of a cylindrical form, and is enclosed horizontally in a brick fire-place with one end opening outwards, in a similar manner to the iron ovens in common use; a semi-cylinder of cast iron is placed beneath it, to preserve it from being injured by the intensity of the fire, and to make the heat more equable; the grate for the fire extends inwards about one third of the length of the retort, and the flame, after circulating over it, passes upwards through a flue above the front part of the retort; it is supposed that the cast iron shield placed beneath the retort joins the brick work at each side, though this circumstance is not stated in the description, because this would be necessary to make the flame pass on round the further end of the retort; the mouth of the

Vol. V.

3 L

retort

retort is closed by a lid ground to fit it air tight, which is fastened by a screw in the center (but what this screw turns in to draw the lid close is not mentioned.) Near the retort a well or pit is sunk and filled with water for the gas-holder, or vessel for equalizing the delivery of the gas, to move in; this gas-holder is made of wrought iron plates, and is counterpoised by two weights, acting by chains passing over pulleys fixed in a frame at a due height above, it is of a cylindrical shape, and has two frames of iron formed like coach wheels, placed at its extremities to strengthen it. A vessel of cast iron is placed at the bottom of the well, into which the gas passes by a pipe that proceeds from the upper part of the retort, and in it deposits the tar, oil, &c. which occasionally are pumped up from it by a pipe that rises above the well, from this vessel the gas rises upwards, by a straight pipe, into an inverted vessel, closed at top, but open below, most part of which is below the surface of the water, where it is pierced with numerous small holes, through which the gas presses outwards, through the water, and rises up into the gas-holder: this inverted vessel is about eighteen inches diameter, and two feet long, in a large apparatus; it causes the gas to be washed in the most effectual manner, and prevents all danger of the water being drawn into the condenser on cooling the retort, as might happen if the gas pipe terminated in the water. The gas at the lower part of the gas-holder not being so pure as that at the top, it is made to pass from the top alone by a vertical pipe in the center, which rises and falls with the gas-holder, and reaches from the upper part to the water, and passes over a fixed pipe, rising from a second vessel at the bottom of the well, (represented in the plate, but not mentioned in the description) from whence another pipe ascends close by the side of the well to convey the gas to the lamps, where it is burnt. The gas enters the moveable pipe through small holes near its top, and is from thence conveyed through the other pipes last described.

The seams of the gas-holder are luted to make them air tight, and the whole is well painted inside and out; it is sunk to a level nearly with the top of the well, before the retort is heated, but when the gas comes over on applying the fire, it gradually rises, and moves higher or lower, according as the gas is produced more or less abundantly.

The lamps in which the gas is burned, are formed in the same manner as argand lamps; the gas passes into the space between their inner and outer tubes by a pipe at one side; a flat ring closes the upper part of each, which is perforated with a number of small holes, through which the gas rises to the flame surrounded by a glass funnel; a small stopper, like a button, is placed so on the top of a vertical wire within the glass, that it may be brought nearer or farther from the aperture of the internal tube by which the air passes, and regulate the velocity and direction of its current; for which purpose the wire slides upwards through two cross bars placed across the inner tube. This little addition is found to assist the combustion very much, and encrease the light.

The dimensions of the apparatus are not mentioned in the description, but assuming the length of the inverted vessel as a standard, which is the only part whose capacity is noted in any case; the proportions of the different parts as taken from the plate will be thus; the gas-holder six feet in diameter and 6½ feet high, the retort about five feet long, and 1½ in diameter; the first condenser two feet in diameter, the second immersed vessel 1½ in diameter; and the inverted vessel, or gas-washer, two feet long and about one foot broad: the pulleys, over which the chains work which raise the gas-holder, 1½ feet in diameter, the well 7 feet deep, the flue of the chimney 9 inches across, and the space between the retort and the brick work 6 inches, except over the fire-place, which is 18 inches long, and 10 deep.

Mr. Clegg's communication has the merit of being the first *complete* description of an apparatus of English construction, for producing coal gas which has yet been made publick, from which one might be made without leaving the formation of any part to conjecture; with the exception of the mode in which the screw is to be applied for fastening the lid of the retort.

The

The gas-holder alone in this apparatus seems objectionable in being made needlessly strong, as it is stated to be formed of *wrought iron* plates, and is besides strengthened by two very powerful iron frames inside, when it is not liable to any great pressure internally or externally, or to any friction which would require all this strength. For a common apparatus on a small scale a cask would probably do very well for this part, as the water with which it would be always in contact would keep it staunch. From this description, and those before given by Mr. Cook inserted in our former numbers, an apparatus of any size, small or great, may be now constructed, to facilitate which the dimensions of most of the parts are given here, from the plate of Mr. Clegg's apparatus, in the 26th vol. of the transactions of the Society for Arts, &c. which is copied in the Phil. Mag. No. 131; and will probably appear in the other monthly publications of the same nature; this is mentioned for the convenience of those of our readers who would wish to see the plate.

The silver medal of the Society for Arts, &c. was presented to Mr. Clegg for this communication.

Patent of Edward Stracey, Esq. of Westminster, for a new method of constructing the Perches, and of hanging the Bodies of four-wheeled Carriages.—Dated Jan. 1809.

Either extremity of the Perch, in Mr. Stracey's method, is formed so as to turn in sockets attached to the frame work over one of the axle-trees, so that the two axle-trees may incline vertically in any angle to each other's planes. To allow the braces to accommodate themselves to this motion, the irons, called technically loops, by which the body is supported, are lengthened so that their extremities may lie directly under the tops of the springs, where revolving sockets are attached to them ending in shackles by which the braces connect them to the springs: to accommodate the motion of the axle-trees, two collar braces are fixed beneath the carriage which pass round a roller, attached to the perch, in opposite directions, and are made fast to it; so that they restrain the motion of the body upwards alone, but do not impede lateral motion.

The perch bolt is formed into two screws tapped reversely, united by a flat plate in the middle; a nut is secured to the transom bed for one end of the screw bolt, and another nut to the fore axle-tree bed for the other end, both tapped so as to correspond to their respective screws. When the fore axle with its frame work is screwed on to the transom bed by this screw bolt, it will separate a little from the transom bed at every inclination from its first position; which the patentee thinks will be of advantage in lessening the friction of the parts. The chief use of this screw bolt will be in preventing all possibility of its slipping out, while the nuts remain fast.

The original mail coaches were contrived with perches which allowed of a motion similar to those proposed by Mr. Stracey. It is certainly an advantage to have the axle-trees so managed that the four wheels shall each touch the ground at once, though it should be considerably uneven, but this can be surely effected without requiring the springs to be at any time in different planes, as must happen in Mr. Stracey's method, by which an awkward twisting motion will be given to the braces, and the body be unequally supported: Mr. Elliot's patent method of constructing carriages without perches, described in a former number, effects the same purpose without having these inconveniences.

Patent of Mr. Jones, of Bilston, Staffordshire, Japanner, for Compositions for making Trays, Waiters, and various other articles, and for new modes of manufacturing them.—Dated March 1805.

The Composition of which Mr. Jones most approves for making Trays, and other articles of this nature, consists of one hundred pounds of rope, and ten pounds of rags for large articles, and for small articles the quantity of rags
doubled,

doubled, these by the processes used in paper mills are reduced to a pulp, to which is to be added as much acid of vitriol as will make it slightly acid: various other compositions of hemp, waste paper, nettle fibres, tow, &c. mixed with ropes, are mentioned as fit for the same purpose in an inferior degree. With the above pulp a flat plate is made by collecting a sufficient quantity of it in a paper-maker's wire sieve, and pressing it slightly between flannels to make it felt. This plate is then laid over a convex mold, of the shape of the articles wanted, without removing the flannels, and a concave mold corresponding to the other mold, is laid over it, and pressed down by screws so as to force out nearly all the rest of the liquid, and make it solid. The article being thus shaped, is taken off the mold, the flannels are separated from it, and it is put into an oven, or stove, of a moderate heat, till nearly dry; but care must be taken that it should not become too dry, as that would render it brittle; after this it is again pressed with some violence in the molds to make it smooth, and set it. It is then put into a frame, or on a block, of a proper form to keep it from warping, and is retained there by weights, or by any other method; and is again put into the stove till it is thoroughly dry. It is then hammered all over to make it smooth and even, and is afterwards immersed in the liquid used by japanners for paper articles, which is best used warm; when thoroughly penetrated by the liquid, it is taken out, and put a third time into the oven till quite dry; it then receives the usual varnish preparatory to rasping, filing, and finishing; after which it receives the ornamental part of the process and the final varnishing. The patentee finds it best to have one of the molds made of cast iron, and the other of tin, or other soft metal; and concludes by stating a variety of articles which may be made in this manner, among which are mentioned, besides the articles of this kind commonly known, pannels for coaches, tables, hats, and caps.

Among the various uses to which this manufacture may be applied, there is one, which probably has not occurred to Mr. Jones, which would be of considerable benefit to the fine Arts. Some eminent proficient of the graphic art in oil painting, find a considerable advantage in using pasteboard for their pictures on account of the absorbent ground it affords, but the common pasteboard, besides being liable to bend and warp, is likewise subject to divide and receive other injury by damp. It is imagined that the blanks prepared by Mr. Jones before dipping, would form an excellent article for this use, having all the good properties of pasteboard without its bad ones. Picture frames might also be made of this composition to advantage, particularly those of a small size.

A method of painting canvass or linen cloth in oil colours, by which it is rendered more pliant, durable, and longer impervious to water, than by the usual mode, contrived by Mr. Wm. Anderson of Portsmouth.—Trans. Soc. Arts. V. 26.

In the method usually practised in the royal dock yards for painting canvass, it was first wet with water, then primed with Spanish brown; a second coat was given it of a chocolate colour, composed of Spanish brown and black paint, and lastly it was finished with black paint. This mode is destructive, and more expensive than Mr. Anderson's method, according to his statement, by a guinea in every hundred yards. The object of this method is to prevent paint when laid on canvas from hardening in such a degree as to crack, and eventually to break the canvas, and render it unserviceable; by which vast quantities of canvas prepared for hammocks and for other articles for the public service have been destroyed. Mr. Anderson's method of obviating this defect is very simple, and is found to be very effectual, and merely consists in the addition of a certain portion of soap to the paint in the mode. One pound of yellow soap is put to six pints of water, and boiled, a little after the boiling it dissolves, and it is to be mixed with the paint while hot, this quantity will be sufficient for one hundred weight of paint.

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The paint which Mr. Anderson prefers for canvass is composed of ninety six pound of English ochre ground in boiled linseed oil, to which sixteen pounds of black paint, being one sixth of the quantity, is added. This when mixed forms an indifferent black. The soap solution is to be added to this paint, and to be well united to it; and, without wetting the canvas previously, the composition is to be laid on it as stiff as can be conveniently done with the brush; this first coat will form a tolerably smooth surface. The second coat is to be formed of the same proportion of English ochre and black paint, without any soap solution; and the third coat is to consist of black paint alone in the usual manner.

This method is also extremely serviceable for canvas designed for paintings, for floor cloth, and for painted coverings to be used without doors or within. It is also found to be a preservative to red, yellow, and black paint ground in oil and put in casks. Paints thus managed being examined at the end of four years, discovered no improper hardness; but being laid on work with a brush dried in a remarkable manner, without the addition of the usual drying articles. The proper time between laying on the first and second coats of paint in this method, is 24 hours, but if need requires, the second coat may be added on the day following the first. Canvas finished entirely with the composition, will not stick together when laid up in quantities, if it has been left to dry for one day between each coat.

Many certificates accompany Mr. Anderson's communications, of trials to a large extent made of canvas painted in his mode, which prove, that after a considerable lapse of time, it still remained pliant, and neither peeled off nor cracked.

Mr. Anderson has found, that one man can work four of the common paint mills, by connecting the spindles of each pair by collars and pins, and placing the man between two pair to turn them by the same winch. Formerly one man was thought to be necessary to each mill.

Mr. Anderson ends his communication with the following receipt for making lead colour proper for painting iron.

Litharge is to be put in an iron pan on the fire, and a small portion of flower of brimstone is to be scattered over it, when it is sufficiently warm to light it. This instantly converts it to a blackish colour, which when ground in oil, makes a good dark lead colour; which dries quickly, becomes remarkably hard, and resists the weather beyond any other lead colour. It will therefore be extremely useful for painting guns in the ordnance department. Mr. Anderson received the silver medal from the Society for Arts, &c. for the foregoing invention.

Description of a Churn Staff with a revolving head, invented by Mr. Thomas Fisher, of Ormskirk, Lancashire.—Trans. Soc. Arts V. 26.

Mr. Fisher's Churn Staff is found to diminish the labour of churning very much, and accelerates the process so, that it is necessary to work it slower than the common one, to prevent it from churning the cream too soon, or from *swelting it*, as it is called in the Lancashire dialect.

The head of the Churn Staff is composed of four vanes shaped like those of a smoke jack, which turn round a pin driven into the end of the staff; those vanes are flat and parallel to the bottom of the churn for about a third of their distance from the center, and afterwards are sloped so as to form an angle of forty-five degrees with the flat part; the flat part acts with its usual force upon the middle of the body of the cream; and the sloped parts turning rapidly round, in passing through the milk, give the middle part a circular motion, and cause a compound motion to the whole, that is of a considerable advantage in the process. The vanes being shaped in the same way above and below, act similarly on the milk in ascending and descending, they do not cause the least *splashing*, or throw out any of the cream, as the common churn staff does, notwithstanding the additional motion which they occasion in it. A small bolt, formed of wood, is placed at the side of the staff, just
above

above the vanes, which on being pushed down enters a hole in one of the vanes, and prevents them from turning round; in which fixed state they answer better for collecting the butter together at the top of the butter milk, when the churning is finished. Mr. Fisher tried a variety of forms for the vanes, and different bevels, and numbers, but found those above described to be the best.

The Society for Arts, &c. voted Mr. Fisher a premium of five guineas for this invention.

Account of a new Theory of Electricity, from an Essay on Electrical attractions and repulsions.—*Journ. de Physique* T. 63, p. 378. and *Phil. Jour.* V. 29, p. 308.

The late discoveries of the more extensive agency of electricity in natural phenomena, than was formerly supposed by its most sanguine admirers, renders any information of importance which tends to throw any light on its nature. The theory which the anonymous author of this essay advances has the merit of great simplicity to recommend it, of which he justly observes, that in general it is found the more we simplify our theories to account for natural phenomena, the nearer we approach the truth.

This new theory consists in rejecting repulsion entirely from the electrical system and solving all the phenomena hitherto ranged under that name, by the operation of the superior attraction of surrounding bodies, or vapours. Metal has a strong attraction for electricity, therefore a bit of foil is drawn to a charged glass tube, but instead of being repelled from the tube again, as is supposed, it is only drawn away by some other body, that has a strong attraction to the charge of electricity it has just received, which charge at the same time puts an end to its attraction for the electrified tube; and if its gravitation is prevented from acting, by suspending it, or any other method, it will, when it has delivered its charge to the other body, return to the tube for another charge, and pass alternately from one to the other till it has brought them both to the same state of electricity. The apparent repulsion of the pith balls in the electrometer, the author accounts for by their being attracted by the aqueous vapours dissolved in the air, while they have no attraction for each other, from being equally charged. The divergency of the fibres of a tuft of hair or thread, when placed in a charged conductor, he also accounts for, by the agency of the same aqueous vapour.

To understand the operation of the aqueous vapour, it must be considered that any part of it is capable of receiving a charge of a certain strength, without communicating it immediately to the rest, and thus the balls are surrounded with an electrical atmosphere where the attraction of the vapour ceases; while beyond this space it acts powerfully on the charged balls, which tend therefore to pass to the surface of this charged space, but as they separate, the atmosphere of each tends to assume the spherical form it would have, if entirely detached from the other, therefore, when the separation has proceeded to a certain degree, the attraction of the surrounding vapour will operate between the spheres of electrical atmosphere of the balls, in the part beyond the point of contact, and will then begin to draw them towards each other again, so that they cannot separate beyond a certain degree, which must depend on the strength of the charge they have received.

The experiment of small bodies made to leap between an electrified plate, and one not electrified, is still more easily accounted for in this method; as is that of the pith balls leaping against the sides of an electrified glass goblet held over them; and also the experiment of the electrical chimes; and several others of the same sort; for in all these experiments the unelectrified fixed body, which attracts the moveable bodies after they have been electrified, and deprives them of their charge, is at once apparent, and in most of them forms a part of the apparatus.

The author in like manner accounts for the experiment in which thin hollow glass globes are made to revolve by being placed in contact with the external edge of a brass ring (about a foot in diameter) suspended horizontally from the

the charged conductor of an electrical machine, at such a distance from a metal plate as will prevent the glass globes from passing under the ring. Glass becomes a conductor when charged to a certain degree, and the motion of the globes is at least as easily accounted for by supposing them to be attracted by the plate, in conveying the electrical aura to it from the ring, as by supposing them to be repelled by the ring.

The author advances this theory without seeming to be thoroughly convinced of its truth; he observes that he may be deceived in his reasoning on the subject, and that his manner of seeing the phenomena, may perhaps be by the *idola specus* of Bacon. His object is truth alone, and he concludes with the well-known quotation addressed to the reader,

—Si quid novisti rectius istis
Candidus imperti.—

Of this last-mentioned experiment it should be noted, that how either attraction to, or repulsion from the ring or plate, should give motion to the balls, is not by any means apparent; to effect this their action must take place more at one side of the ball than the other, but that it does so has not yet been proved; the subject is well worth further investigation.

Of the apparent radiation and reflection of cold by means of two concave metallic mirrors, by Mr. John Martin.—Phil. Jour. V. 20, p. 341.

The apparent radiation and reflection of cold by means of two concave metallic mirrors, has usually been accounted for by supposing that the thermometer placed in the focus of one of the mirrors, acts as a heated body, and that the heat radiating from it is transmitted to the cold body in the opposite focus. Mr. Martin objects to this theory, that the thermometer is not in fact a heated body, since it is not hotter than the surrounding atmosphere, and consequently cannot radiate heat; but it has been said, that the surrounding air becomes cooled, and that consequently the thermometer in respect to it, is a hot body, and radiates heat accordingly; this however does not explain clearly why the thermometer should be reduced to a temperature lower than the air which surrounds it.

The new method of accounting for this fact is as follows. The heat enters the cold body, placed in the focus of one of the mirrors, from the surrounding air in all directions, consequently every point of the surface of the mirror becomes cooled, and those points can only be supplied with fresh heat in parallel rays in a direct course from the opposite mirror, because rays only (striking against so many imaginary tangents of that mirror) can be thrown off towards the cold body; the opposite mirror therefore becomes cool, and for the same reason the whole surface of it must be supplied with heat from the thermometer, which consequently must become cooler than a body placed any where in its neighbourhood.

Two methods of purifying Lemon Juice.—Phil. Jour. V. 20, p. 382.

The first method of purifying lemon juice; is to put a dram of nitromuriate of Tin (prepared by dissolving the metal in a mixture of two parts of nitric, and one of muriatic acid) in a quart of lemon juice; and after letting it stand forty-eight hours to filter it through white paper.

The second method is to mix one ounce of finely pounded and well burnt charcoal in one quart of lemon juice; and after its standing twelve hours, to filter it through white paper.

The communicator of this article observes, that the latter method seems preferable, as there is nothing employed, which can in any degree injure the juice, the charcoal being insoluble. In the first method, perhaps some of the solution of tin may pass the filter, though it is most probable it will precipitate along with the mucilage, and extractive matter, which are so combined that one cannot be precipitated without the other; however, should any pass, the quantity must be so small, as to be of little consequence.

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An account of the method of cultivating the American Cranberry, by the Right Hon. Sir Joseph Banks.—Trans. Hist. Soc. p. 2.

The American cranberry, *vaccinium monocarpium*, has succeeded remarkably well at Spring-grove, under the management of Sir Joseph Banks.

It is cultivated on an artificial island in a basin, and on the banks of a pond at Spring-grove, which are supplied by a spring that rises in a small grove on the grounds, from which the place probably derives its name: to this constant supply of fresh water, though it is but small, the great luxuriance with which water plants of all kinds, suitable to the climate, succeed in the pond, is to be in a great degree attributed.

In the middle of the basin, a small island has been formed, by supporting a box of oak upon posts driven into the bottom; this box is 22 feet in diameter, and 13 inches deep; the bottom lies 5 inches under the surface of the water, and is bored through with many holes; on this a layer of stones and rubbish was first placed, and upon that a covering of bog earth from Hounslow Heath, which together are at the bottom, 5 inches under the surface of the water, and 7 inches above it at the top; in this bed of black mould, a variety of curious bog plants were placed about seven years ago, which flourished in an unusual degree, among these was the *Vaccinium*, which flowered and ripened its fruit the first year. In the autumn of the second year it again produced a plentiful crop, and soon after began to send out runners, somewhat resembling those of a strawberry, but longer and rather less inclined to take root while young; they did however take root in the winter, and threw out upright branches, ten inches and a foot long, on which the flowers and fruit were chiefly placed; the produce was this year gathered, and found to be high flavoured berries, very superior to those imported, which have in general been gathered unripe, and have become vapid and almost tasteless, by long soaking in the water in which they are packed for carriage. It was now determined to give up the whole of the island to the cranberry, which in a few years entirely covered it by its runners, without any fresh plants being added, and this bed, with the addition of some hanging boxes receding from the centre to the sides, produced in 1806, 23 bottles of very fine cranberries.

In 1805, a bed was made on the side of the pond 20 feet long, and 5½ wide, by a few stakes driven into the bottom parallel to the sides, and lined with old boards; the bottom of this was filled with stones and rubbish, and on these a bed of black mould was laid, extending 3 inches above and 7 inches beneath the usual surface of the water; this was planted with cranberry plants, from a hot bed, where many of them rooted and thrived most vigorously. In the autumn of 1807, this bed produced a crop, which, added to that of the island, afforded 5 dozen bottles of cranberries, besides a small basket for present use. The total contents of the two cranberry beds is 326 square feet; the quantity of land employed for raising strawberries at Spring-grove is, after deducting the divisions between the beds, 5645 feet; the beds necessary to give a sufficient supply of cranberries for Sir Joseph's family, did not therefore occupy quite an eighth of the space allotted to the strawberries.

OBITUARY OF DISTINGUISHED PERSONS.

RICHARD GOUGH, ESQ.

RICHARD GOUGH, Esq. an eminent antiquary, was the son of Harry Gough, an East India Captain, and finally a member of parliament in the interest of Sir Robert Walpole. He was of the dissenting persuasion.

RICHARD was born on October 21st, 1735, in a spot congenial to his future pursuits—this was, an old house in Winchester-street, London, on the site of a monastery of Augustine Friars. He received his classical education under different masters, of whom the last was Samuel Dyer, a literary contemporary of Dr. Johnson. In 1752, his father being then dead, he was admitted a fellow-commoner of Bene't-college, Cambridge, a seminary long associated with the study of British antiquities. He imbibed the taste of the place, of which the first fruit was a visit to Crowland abbey and Peterborough. This was the commencement of a series of similar exploratory tours to different parts of England, which he continued for twenty years, laying up a store of observations relative to the remains of former ages. As he was born to a hereditary fortune, it does not appear that his literary pursuits were interrupted by any professional engagements. In 1767 he was elected a member of the Society of Antiquaries, of which he became a director in 1771. The history of the Society prefixed to their first volume of "*Archæologia*," was drawn up by him, and for many years he superintended the publication of their subsequent volumes. In 1767, also, he commenced a correspondence with the Gentleman's Magazine, which doubtless has much contributed to the antiquarian character maintained by that periodical work. The "*Anecdotes of British Topography*," first published in one vol. 4to. 1768, is ascribed to his labours, though his name does not appear in the title-page. A second edition of this work, in 2 vols. 4to. appeared in 1780.

Proceeding in his antiquarian career, he edited in 1772 Perlin's "*Description des Royaumes d'Angleterre et d'Ecosse*," with De la Serre's "*Hist. de l'Entrée de la Roynie Mere de la Grande Bretagne*," 4to. In 1774 he brought through the press "*Hutchins's History of Dorsetshire*," the deceased author of which he had kindly helped in his difficulties by promoting a subscription to enable him to complete his work. In that year Mr. Gough entered into the matrimonial state, and retired to his family mansion at Enfield, which he augmented with an extensive library, peculiarly rich in topographical publications. He published in 1778 a "*Dissertation on the Coins of King Canute*," and in the following year, having purchased the collections of Mr. Martin, of Thetford, he gave a new and improved edition of his history of that place. The purchase of Vertue's plates of the medals, coins, and great seals executed by the celebrated Simon, engaged him, in 1780, to publish a new edition of them. About this period he assisted Mr. Nichols in various publications, and contributed several essays to the "*Bibliotheca Topographica Britannica*," of that meritorious printer and antiquary. He appeared as a compiler in a work published in 1785, entitled, "*A comparative View of the Ancient Monuments of India*," particularly those on the Island of Salset, near Bombay," the descriptions in which are extracted from different writers. This, in its subject, was a kind of prelude to what may be regarded as his principal performance, the labour of a great part of his life, the "*Sepulchral Monuments of Great Britain*," of which the first volume appeared in 1786, and the second, in two parts, in 1796 and 1799. It is a splendid work, the result of much research, and filled with particulars that at least may be denominated curious, though their intrinsic value will be very differently estimated by different tastes. Another voluminous proof of his industry, and one of the great objects to which his annual excursions had been directed, was brought to a conclusion in 1789: this was his new translation and edition of "*Camden's Britannia*." It appeared in three large volumes folio, which were nine years in passing through the press; and

though the combination of the original with the ample additions, taken from many different sources, forms a very indigested and ill-proportioned whole, yet the work is undoubtedly a mass of valuable matter, highly useful for consultation, if not agreeable in the perusal.

In 1786 he began to communicate to the *Gentleman's Magazine* reviews of literary publications, which he continued for several years. As he has himself thought proper to make something of an apology for "the warmth and severity with which he criticised certain innovations in church and state," it will not be doubted that an apology was wanted; and as far as being extremely in earnest is an excuse for illiberality and bigotry, he may be allowed the benefit of it. In fact, his temper was irritable, and petty quarrels would make no small part of his private history. Of his other works may be mentioned, "The History and Antiquities of Pleshy," 1803; "A Description of the Beauchamp Chapel at Warwick," 1804; and "Coins of the Selencidæ, Kings of Syria, with Historical Memoirs of their Reigns," 1804. He was likewise a coadjutor and contributor to many publications of his acquaintance, being a liberal patron and willing encourager of those engaged in similar studies, both by written communications, and the free use of his library. His health began to decline in 1805, in consequence of frequent epileptic fits. He died on Feb. 20th, 1809, regretted by the poor, to whom he was a liberal benefactor, and leaving a respected name among the literary characters of his country. He is said to have made munificent bequests in his will to the Saxon professor at Oxford, and to the Bodleian library.

MR. EDWARD KENNION.

On Friday, the 14th instant, died, in London, in a manner awfully sudden, Mr. Edward Kennion, of Charlotte-street, Fitzroy-square, an eminent landscape-painter, in the 64th year of his age.

This gentleman was a native of Liverpool, and designed originally for business. In pursuance of this destination he went out when a young man to Jamaica, at which island he embarked to join the expedition against the Havana, in the commissary's department, and was present at the memorable siege of that fortress in the year 1762. His health having suffered from the climate of the West Indies, he proceeded to New York, whence he soon afterwards returned home, and endeavoured to settle himself in trade in England. One or two attempts which he made did not succeed, owing principally to his having been unfortunately connected in partnership. At the same time it must be admitted that his talents were not of a nature the best adapted to this line of life; and having always felt a strong predilection for the arts, and particularly landscape representation, to which he had more or less devoted himself from his early years, he at length gave up business altogether, and finally settled in London as an artist.

Mr. Kennion was intimate with the late Mr. Barrett, from whom he may probably have derived some assistance in his earlier studies, but he was in a great measure self-taught. He looked at nature with his own eyes, was indefatigable in the study of her works, and none ever copied from her with more fidelity and accuracy. His great principle as an artist was, that nature, and nature only, was to be exhibited; in mean, however, general nature, not particular circumstances. He totally condemned the practice, in his opinion too common with artists, of violating the truth of nature for the sake of producing what is called effect, maintaining that effect might be produced consistently with true representation; and it is apprehended that he established the correctness of this opinion by his own practice, which was entirely founded upon it.

Nature was his guide and directress throughout; but in nothing does this appear so conspicuous as in his trees, the different species of which were discriminated by his pencil, and so strikingly characterized, both in ramification and foliage, that they cannot be mistaken by any one who knows one kind of tree

tree from another. In this particular it is, perhaps, not too much to say, that he stands unequalled by any artist living or dead.

Oil painting Mr. Kennion never practiced, and in the early part of his professional career he did not pay much attention to colouring, aiming rather to produce a true effect independently of colour; and many excellent specimens exist in Indian ink and black lead, to shew the perfection which he had attained in these modes of representation. The decided taste of the public for beautiful colouring, and the example of some living artists who excel in this department, at length compelled him to attend to it more particularly, and his later productions evince that here also he was eminently successful. Though executed in water colours, they have the force of oil paintings.

It is to be regretted that he has not left a greater number of these his best pictures. The reason is, that of late years he devoted most of his time to collecting materials for a work which he had been long contemplating, and which, indeed, he announced to the public rather prematurely many years ago. In the prosecution of this object he had not only written much original matter, but in an extensive course of reading had selected from different authors a variety of passages connected with his subject, adding criticisms and remarks of his own; so that this work, which he entitled "Elements of Universal Representation in Landscape," was intended, if it met with public encouragement, to have been a complete Treatise on the Art, embracing in some degree collateral topics, and extending to four quarto volumes, with plates, executed in aquatinta by himself, or under his immediate inspection. By a prospectus which he published about the year 1804, it appears, that his plan was to divide each volume into two parts, theoretical and practical; one to consist of general and miscellaneous observations, the other to explain the modes of execution. In the first volume, after a copious introductory dissertation, he proposed to treat of trees; in the second, of buildings, including perspective; in the third, of general effect, with illustrations of the picturesque; and, in the fourth, of particular effects, such as reflections in still and agitated water, winter, fog, moonlight, &c. with the use and propriety of figures and animals in landscape. Hence it will be perceived that his design embraced a very wide field. It was, in fact, perhaps, too extensive an undertaking, especially for an individual somewhat advanced in life.

After many unforeseen difficulties, he had at length brought the first part to the verge of publication, and he hoped soon to enjoy the reward of his long labours in having his pictures better understood, and more highly valued, in consequence of the principles explained and enforced in his writings. But what are the hopes of man? "He lieth down among the clouds of the valley, his purposes are broken off, even the thoughts of his heart." Whether the publication is now likely to take place is unknown to the writer.

Mr. Kennion was twice married. Of his first marriage there is no issue living; but he has left, to mourn his irreparable loss, a widow and four children, the eldest of whom, Mr. Charles Kennion, has been brought up to the profession under his father's eye, and is now a most promising young artist.

ANNA SEWARD.

ANNA SEWARD, a poetess of distinguished elegance, born about the year 1745, was daughter of the Rev. Thomas Seward, rector of Eyam, in the Peak of Derbyshire, a man of taste and learning, and of considerable talents for poetry and polite literature. Anna's infant mind was nourished by her father with the vivid and sublime imagery of Milton, and her early education amid the wild and alpine scenery of the Peak, enhanced the enthusiasm of feeling to which she was naturally disposed. In her seventh year, her father being made a canon-residentary of Litchfield, she removed with the family to that city, which thenceforth became her residence during the whole of her life. The fruit of her father's instructions appeared in some early efforts at poetical composition, which, however, met with discouragement from her mother; and Mr. Seward was afterwards induced to withdraw the countenance he had given

to her literary pursuits; so that several years of her youth elapsed with only stolen and interrupted attempts to cultivate an art of which she had so strongly imbibed the rudiments. As she grew to womanhood, she, of course, followed more freely the bent of her genius; she was, however, long known only as the private ornament of Litchfield, and the object of much attachment and admiration in her circle of friends. An acquaintance with Lady Miller, of Bath-easton, induced her to become a contributor to her poetical Vase; she repeatedly obtained the myrtle-wreath which was its prize, and the publication of the crowned pieces first ushered Miss Seward's muse to the world. In the following year, 1780, she published her "Elegy on Captain Cook," a performance of great merit, as well from its harmony of versification, as the beautiful and appropriate imagery with which it abounds, and the force and delicacy of its sentiments. The contrast between the different mourners on this event, queen Oberea, and the wife of the great navigator, is peculiarly striking. The next year produced her "Monody on Major André." With this lamented young officer she was intimately acquainted, in the course of his long attachment to her amiable friend, Miss Honora Sneyd. It is not, therefore, to be wondered at that she writes with peculiar pathos on this occasion, nor that her partiality, and probably, also, her political sentiments at that period, lead her to express warm indignation against those who inflicted a disgraceful punishment upon her hero. We are informed that she afterwards became sensible of the injustice she had done General Washington by her personal invectives on this melancholy occasion. These two elegiac pieces produced the appropriate compliment from Dr. Darwin of telling her that she was "the inventress of epic elegy." The death of Lady Miller was lamented by Miss Seward in a Poem to her Memory, published in 1782, in the style of rich and florid imagery which marks her compositions. Her poetical novel of "Louisa," which appeared in 1784, displayed her talent of uniting narrative with description and sentiment, and proved a popular production. As a mere novel its merit is not of the first rate, and they who read for incident solely will probably find the vehicle redundant in ornament: it, however, contains much to admire. In 1787 she addressed an Ode of congratulation to the victorious Elliott, on his return from Gibraltar. It is in the epic strain, and the writer has exerted every effort to render it worthy of the patriotic sentiment which inspired it.

In 1790 Miss Seward lost her aged father, whose gradual decline she had solaced with the tenderest filial assiduity. Her muse had been long silent, when in 1796 she published "Llangollen Vale, with other Poems." Of these, in general, the character is similar to that of her preceding compositions, but it may be possibly thought that the authoress was now deviating more into that exuberance of words and excess of ornament which is the principal defect of her poetry. In this miscellany were some Sonnets; and three years afterwards she published a collection of a hundred compositions of this species, all of the legitimate form, and many of them beautifully descriptive and sentimental. To these were subjoined "Odes paraphrased from Horace." In the latter she professedly indulged her talent at amplification, in which she sometimes appears elegant and splendid, but in general, one to whom the originals are familiar will think their spirit much impaired by dilution. Soon after the death of Dr. Darwin, Miss Seward, who at one time of her life had been intimately acquainted with this distinguished philosopher and poet, published, in 1804, "Memoirs of his Life." This is a desultory performance, written in a style very deficient in correctness and good taste, but full of entertaining matter, and enriched with some judicious criticism on Dr. Darwin's poetical character, and on other incidental topics. From her account of the origin of the celebrated "Botanic Garden," it appears, that some admired lines in the exordium of the first part of that poem were of her composition, though unacknowledged. Indeed, the harmony of her versification, and her powers of brilliant and picturesque description, enable her lines to blend their tints with those of Darwin, without any perceptible change in the tone of colouring.

This Lady died at Litchfield on the 25th of March, and we understand that she has made Walter Scott, Esq. and Mr. Constable, of Edinburgh, her literary heirs.

DOMESTIC OCCURRENCES.

LONDON AND MIDDLESEX.

An accident of a novel nature occurred lately on the Paddington canal, near Twyford, about five miles from town. One of the passage boats belonging to Mr. Pickford, was on its way to the country, laden with various articles—among others some barrels of brandy and rum, over which were ten barrels of gunpowder. The crew consisted of four men; one was with the horse which drew the boat, one in the little cabin in the after part or stern; and the remaining two who were on deck, took it into their heads to help themselves to a little spirits; they bored a hole with a gimblet, by mistake, in one of the casks of powder, which immediately took fire, and the boat blew up with a most dreadful explosion. The two men were killed on the instant. One of them was blown to a distance of more than 60 yards, his entrails torn out, and his thigh and leg separated from his body. Three ricks of hay belonging to Mr. Willan, of Mary-le-bonne park, were set fire to, and upwards of 360 loads consumed. The shock was dreadful in the vicinity, and the houses were agitated as though by an earthquake. The man who was in the cabin asleep escaped, almost miraculously, unhurt,—though a man in another boat which was about sixty yards astern, was blown from his station at the helm into the adjoining field.

Married. At *St. Mary-le-bonne*, James Winckworth, Esq. of Oxford-street, to Miss Fry, daughter of James Fry, Esq. of May-fair.—Captain Woodley Losack, of the Royal Navy, to Miss Gordon, only daughter of the late George Gordon, Esq.—G. Parke, Esq. of Chelsea, to Miss Jane Mercer, of Devonshire-street, Portland-place.—At *St. Margaret's*, Westminster, James Walsh, Esq. of Parliament-street, to Miss Grobecker, daughter of Frederick Grobecker, Esq. of Park-row, Knightsbridge.—Captain Gosselin of the Royal Navy, to Miss Hadsley, eldest daughter of the late J. R. Hadsley, of Ware Priory, Herts.—At *Whitehall*, the Right Hon. Lord Gardner, to the Hon. Charlotte Smith, daughter to Lord Carrington.—At *St. George's*, Hanover-square, Thomas Hamilton Miller, Esq. of Dalswinton, Dumfriesshire, to Mary Anne, only daughter of Colonel Ram, M.P. for the county of Wexford, Ireland.—Foster Canliffe, Esq. eldest son of Sir Foster Canliffe, Bart. of Acton Park, Denbigh, to the Hon. Miss Crewe, only daughter of Lord Crewe.—At *St. Giles's-in-the-Fields*, Josiah Hodgson of Bargh, near Carlisle, Esq. to Miss Barker, only daughter of Richard Barker, Esq. of Tavistock-street, Bedford-square.—At *St. Andrew's*, Holborn, Lieut. John Cameron, of the Royal Navy, to Miss Maria Colledge, of Lombard-street.—At *St. Dunstan's in the West*, Thomas Erskine Sutherland, Esq. of Edinburgh, to Miss Highley, of Fleet-street.—At *Twickenham*, James Merry, M.D. of Bath, to Mrs. Martha Podmore, widow of the Rev. Richard Podmore, late vicar of Cranbrook and Appledore, Kent.

Died. In *Upper Wimpole-street*, Lady Dorothy Fitzwilliam, youngest daughter of the late Earl Fitzwilliam, and sister to the present Earl.—In *Great George-street*, Miss Harford, only daughter of John Seandret Harford, Esq. banker, of Bristol.—In *Curzon-street*, aged 72, Cornelius Denne, Esq. many years an eminent banker at Temple-bar.—In *Upper Harley-street*, the lady of Sir James Sibbald, Bart.—In *Craig's-court*, Charing-cross, David Pitcairn, M.D. one of the Directors of the Sun-fire Office.—In *Bloomsbury-square*, after a long and painful illness, Mrs. Creaswell, wife of Richard Cheslyn Creaswell, Esq.—At his father's house in *Somerset-place*, after a short but very severe illness, in the 43d year of his age, George Henry Towry, Esq. a captain of the royal navy, and one of the Commissioners of the Transport Board.—At *Islington*, Mrs. Edwards, wife of Mr. Edwards, of Tyndal-place. After breakfast, she went up stairs to speak to the servant in the bed-room; sat down in a chair—complained of a sudden pain in her head, and died instantly. The inconsolable distress of her relatives and friends may easily be conceived. In *Hackney Road*,

Road, Mr. Legate a native of Switzerland. It appeared before the coroner, that Mr. L. had laboured under dejection of spirits for some days, and on Monday morning his wife found him dead on the bed. He had suspended himself by a small cord fixed to the bed-post, and he was found in a reclining posture, so that he must have been very resolute in the commission of the act.—*Lanacy*.—In *Clipstone-street*, after a long illness, Mr. Thomas Holcroft, well-known in the literary world as the author of *Hugh Trevor*, *Anna St. Ives*, &c. &c. He was in his sixty-first year, and his life had been a life of literary labour. Possessed of great natural endowments and a most ardent thirst after knowledge, he overcame by his own efforts alone, every impediment that suppressed the ardour of his mind. He was originally a shoemaker some where in the north of England, but this employment he soon deserted, and tried his fortune on the stage in several provincial companies. In 1778 he came to London and commenced author, by publishing a small volume of poems which procured him an engagement at Drury-lane, but this he very soon resigned, resolved to depend on his literary efforts, which are many and respectable; embracing almost every department of literature. He acquired by his own assiduity such a knowledge of the languages as enabled him to translate freely from the French, Italian, and German, and his dramatic pieces as well as novels entitle him to no ordinary praise as a fruitful and able writer. “The Road to Ruin,” however, is the only dramatic production of his pen that has experienced much success. His religious and political sentiments are well known. He has left a widow and six children, (the eldest only nine years of age) totally unprovided for, and two daughters by a former marriage.—At the house of Mrs. Joessart in the Hackney-road, Miss Frances Hord, the daughter of R. H. Hord, Esq. of Piccadilly. The young lady was somewhat indisposed with a cold, and on retiring to bed she took some gruel. In two hours after she became indisposed, and on surgical assistance being procured, the symptoms gave rise to an opinion, that she had taken poison. The young lady lived only about nine hours, and it was discovered that the oatmeal which she used for the gruel, which she had herself made, was impregnated with arsenic for the destruction of vermin.—In *Bedford-Row*, in the 74th year of her age, after dining out, in seeming perfect health, Mrs. Blake, wife of William Blake, Esq. banker.—At *Hillingdon*, William Pope, Esq. of the King’s Remembrancer’s office.—At *Purser’s Cross*, Fulham Road, Mr. John Richards, formerly acting serjeant trumpeter of England. He was a native of Exeter, and brought up in the Cathedral there, where he acquired a taste for music not to be overcome. He came to London when young, and was engaged in the Opera-house and in the orchestra at Drury-lane, during the most flourishing part of Garrick’s reign. He was one of the original proprietors of the *Morning Chronicle*, and was the means of bringing forward Mr. Woodfall, the late celebrated reporter. He was for many years a considerable gold and silver lace merchant in Southampton-street, Covent-garden, from whence the bad state of his health compelled him to remove in 1794, to his late residence, where he devoted the evening of his life to the cultivation of his garden, which he had stocked with many rare and curious plants and shrubs, and left in the highest order.—Aged 85, Mr. Hugh Hewson, a man of no mean celebrity, though no funeral escutcheons adorned his hearse, or heir apparent graced his obsequies. He was no less a personage than the identical *Hugh Strap*, whom Dr. Smollett rendered so conspicuously interesting in his life and adventures of Roderick Random, and for upwards of forty years had kept a hair-dresser’s shop, in Villiers-street, Strand. The deceased was a very intelligent man, and took delight in recounting the scenes of his early life. He spoke with pleasure of the time he passed in the service of the Doctor; and it was his pride as well as boast to say, that he had been educated at the same seminary with so learned and distinguished a character. His shop was hung round with Latin quotations, and he would frequently point out to his acquaintance the several scenes in Roderick Random, pertaining to himself, which had their foundation, not in the Doctor’s inventive faculty, but in truth and reality. The meeting in a barber’s shop at Newcastle-upon-Tyne, the subsequent mistake at the inn, their arrival together in London, and the assistance they experienced from

from Strap's friend were all of that description. We are told that Mr. Hewson has left behind him an interleaved copy of Roderick Random, pointing out these facts, shewing how far they were indebted to the ingenuity of the Doctor, and to what extent they were bottomed in reality. He could never succeed in gaining more than a decent subsistence by his trade; but he possessed an independence of mind superior to his humble condition. Of late years he was paid a weekly salary as keeper of the promenade in Villiers-walk, York-buildings, and was much noticed and respected by the frequenters of that place.

The Duchess of Bolton, (p. 357) was the youngest sister of the late Earl of Lonsdale. Her elder sister, Miss Lowther, who died at Richmond only a few years ago, had been admired, when young, by the celebrated and lamented General Wolfe, to whom her hand was engaged in 1759, when that hero fell, in the moment of victory, before Quebec. Miss Lowther manifested the deepest distress at his fate; and though she possessed many personal attractions, in addition to a very large fortune, she remained unmarried during her whole life. The beautiful copy of verses, hung by an unknown hand on the tomb of Wolfe, in Westminster-Abbey, beginning

"Could not Lowther, weeping maid!"

was written in allusion to that fact. Her younger sister was married to Lord Harry Powlett, then captain in the British navy, but whose exploits, while in that service, did not entitle him to rank with our naval heroes. Lord Harry was at the siege of Carthage, in S. America, in 1743, where Smollett has consigned his memory to posterity, though not in the most brilliant or flattering colours. He is the *Captain Whiffle*, of Roderick Random. By the death of his elder brother he succeeded early in the present reign to the dukedom of Bolton, which became extinct some years ago, in his person. He left only two daughters, the eldest of whom, Lady Catherine Powlett, a very beautiful and accomplished person, married the present Earl of Darlington. The Duchess of Bolton, her mother, survived her, and has left the greater part of her fortune, which was considerable, to the Hon. Frederic Vane, Lord Darlington's second son.

BEDFORDSHIRE.

Died At Sandy-place, Sir Philip Monoux, Bart. He succeeded to the title on the death of his father in 1757, was appointed Major of the Bedford Militia in 1760, and served the office of High Sheriff in 1763.

BERKSHIRE.

Married. At *Newbury*, the Hon. and Rev. Edward Grey, Rector of Pease-more, Wilts, brother to Earl Grey, to Miss C. Crofts, daughter of J. Crofts, Esq. of Greenham.

Died. At *Windsor*, Sarah Newton. Between five and six o'clock in the morning she was found dead by her son, a youth about fifteen, who called at the house where she lived on his way to his daily employment as a bricklayer's labourer. When he came to her apartment he found the front and back doors open, she living on the ground floor, and his mother a corpse on the bed, beat and bruised in a cruel manner; the lad immediately alarmed the house and neighbourhood. The lodgers in the house and neighbourhood, heard her call murder several times about the hours of two or three in the morning, which they frequently did at all hours. Suspicion fell upon one Brumhall, a rough-rider in the Royal Horse Guards (Blues), who had cohabited with her for five years: she has been a married woman and has left behind her several children. Upon the evidence before the Coroner they proved his frequently beating and ill-treating her, therefore they paid no attention to her cries at the time this happened; but it came out in evidence, that Brumhall was left with her at two o'clock on Wednesday morning, and upon the corroborating evidence, and that of the surgeons who opened and examined the deceased, the jury found a verdict of Wilful Murder against Brumhall; who is committed to Reading gaol, to take his trial at the next assizes. The deceased was kicked and bruised from the top of her head all over her body to her feet, and some of her ribs broken.

CAMBRIDGESHIRE.

CAMBRIDGESHIRE.

The subjects for the members' prizes for this year, are, for the senior bachelors. "*Quænam præcipus valeant ad Imperium stabilendum?*" for the middle bachelors. "*Anne historia vera (ex. gr. Sidnæi, à Zouch scripta atque nuper edita) plus valeat quam fabulosa (ex. gr. Grandisoni, à Richardsonò conficta) ad hominum mores bene formandos?*"

William Heath, Esq. of King's College, and Messrs. James Tobias Cook, Robert Baynes Armstrong, William Ainger, and Joseph Cotterill, B.A. of St. John's College, are elected Fellows of their respective societies. Messrs. John Brewster Wilkinson and Gordon William Kelly, B.A. are also elected Fellows of the latter Society on the foundation of Mr. Platt.

The following gentlemen have been admitted to Degrees, viz. BACHELORS OF ARTS, Messrs. Joseph Tweed and Matthew Holworthy, of *Caius College*; Thomas Halford, of *Jesus*; and Thomas Carpenter, of *St. John's*.—MASTERS OF ARTS, the Rev. James Devereux Hustler, Fellow, Rev. James Geldart, and Messrs. William Bolland, John Lowton, F. H. Maberly, and Thomas Elton Miller, of *Trinity*.—Henry Atlay, James Sherrard Coleman, Thomas Jephson, Francis Merewether, Thomas Tatham, Henry Waller, and Rev. Charles George, of *St. John's*.—William Wilson and Chaloner Arcedeckne, of *Jesus*; Martin Thackeray, Esq. Fellow of *King's*; Robert Pedder Buddicombe, of *Queen's*.—Charles Edward Finch, of *Benet's*; Jonathan Tyers Barrett, and Rev. John Ward, of *Peterhouse*; and Waller Gee, of *Sydney College*.—BACHELOR OF CIVIL LAW, King Francis Eagle, Esq. of *Trinity College*.

The Rev. Thomas Grimwood Taylor, M.A. of Trinity College, is instituted to the vicarage of Dedham in Essex, and the Rev. Charles Wrag Huddelsey, B.A. late of Emmanuel College, vicar of Bolton le Clay, Lincolnshire, to the rectory of Linton in Yorkshire on the presentation of the Lord Chancellor.

Married. At *Cambridge*, Samuel Fiske, Esq. of Saffron Waldron, to Lettice, eldest daughter of the late William Roberts, Esq.—At *Grantchester*, William Carter, Esq. to Catherine, relict of Joseph Hayne, Esq. of Haddon Pastures, St. Ann's.—At *Haddenham*, the Rev. Joseph Fayrer of Somersham, Huntingdon, to Sarah, second daughter of Mr. George Clay.

Died. At *Cambridge*, aged 76, Mr. Richard Gales, baker, one of the Common Councilmen of the corporation.

CHESHIRE.

Married. At *Knutsford*, the Rev. L. Dixon, late of Gosforth, near Shrewsbury, chaplain to Sir H. M. Mainwaring, Bart. to Miss Drake, daughter of the late Thomas Drake, Esq. of Knutsford.—Mr. Coppock, of Aston, to Margaret, third daughter of John Knowles, Esq. of Tabley.—At *Sandbach*, Benjamin Wilson, Esq. of Ardwick, to Miss Mary Wilson.—At *Prestbury*, Joshua Wood, Esq. of Macclesfield, to Mrs. Nicolls, widow of the late Mr. T. Nicolls, of Walsall.

Died. At *Northwich Church*, while attending divine service, aged 47, Mr. William Bamfylde, perpetual overseer of the poor of that town.—Mr. John Hendy, eldest son of John Hendy, Esq. of Flemington, Pembrokeshire.—At *Stoke*, aged 24, John, son of Mr. William Wright of the Swan Inn. On the Monday preceeding his death shortly after eating some muscles, he was seized with violent pains in the abdomen, sickness, fever, constipation, and other symptoms denoting inflammation of the bowels. Medical assistance was immediately called in, but to no purpose, he languished in great pain until Thursday, when his sufferings ended with his life.

CORNWALL.

Died. Rev. Malachi Hitchins, vicar of St. Helary and Gwinnear, and principal calculator to the Board of Longitude.—Mrs. Rogers, wife of Captain Rogers, of Antron-lodge, near Helston, daughter of the late Major Oldham, of the East-India Company's Service. Her life was particularly distinguished by an elegance of manner, a benevolence of heart, and strength of mind, which irresistibly won the esteem and admiration of her numerous relations

lations and friends; she was happily resigned to the will of God, throughout a lingering painful illness, and ever gratefully sensible of the unremitted attention of an affectionate husband; she exerted herself in acts of charity to the poor around her, long after her sufferings incapacitated her from contributing to social pleasures. By all within the circle of her acquaintance and influence she will ever be remembered with the most affectionate regret.

CUMBERLAND.

Died. At *Middleton place*, aged 61, Mrs. Benn; and on the second day following, aged 57, her husband, John Benn, Esq. one of his Majesty's Justices of the Peace for this county. They were interred at the same time in one grave. Both of them were apparently in good health on the Sunday preceding their death.—At *Whitehaven*, in the 55th year of his age, and worthily respected by all who knew him, Mr. Richard Kelsick, the eldest and only surviving son of the late Mr. Isaac Kelsick, of that town, and the last in the male line, of a numerous and respectable family, (from Holm Cultram), whose name is found in the most certain record of the earliest settlers here, at the period when Whitehaven became a sea-port.—At *Seaton Iron Works*, whilst in the act of turning a bevil-wheel pattern in a lathe carried by water, William Little, a mechanic in the employ of the Seaton Company, it may not be improper to state, as a caution to all employed in a similar way, that this industrious and valuable member of society lost his life, by imprudently suffering the end of his neck-cloth to come in contact with the revolving spindle of the lathe, by which it was caught, and instantaneous suffocation was the melancholy consequence.

DERBYSHIRE.

Died. At *Mackworth*, aged 75, Mrs. Chambers, relict of the late Rev. Mr. Chambers, of Stretton-en-le-fields.

DEVONSHIRE.

Married. At *Exeter*, John Grubb, jun. Esq. Captain in the Royal Bucks Militia, to Miss Carrington, eldest daughter of the Rev. William Henry Carrington, minister of Ide near that city.—At *Kelly*, the seat of A. Kelly, Esq. Samuel Laing, Esq. late Aid-de-Camp to General Leith, at Coramra, to Agnes, youngest daughter of Francis John Kelly, Esq. of Hithe.

Died. At *Plymouth*, Nicholas Vincent, Esq. Admiral of the Red, at the advanced age of 86 years. He was made a Post Captain in 1747, and was the oldest admiral in the navy except Sir Peter Parker.—At *Halstock*, the Rev. Henry Hayman, rector of Lenam, Dorset.—At *Barnstaple*, aged 69, Robert Wrey, Esq. brother of the late Sir Bourchier Wrey, Bart. of Tavistock, a major in the queen of Portugal's service, and many years governor of one of the northern provinces of that kingdom. He was one of the last surviving officers who served under General Wolfe in America, and commanded the Louisburg grenadiers.—Penelope Elizabeth, only daughter of T. D. Harris, Esq. of Hayne.—After two days illness, at Tiverton, her native town, which she selected as a pleasing and proper place in which to pass the closing years of her life, Mrs. Cowley, as sincerely esteemed and lamented, amidst a very large circle of friends in that respectable neighbourhood, as she was celebrated throughout society for a very high degree of poetic and dramatic genius. Mr. John Pugh, attorney, of Thorverton, while returning from Tiverton, attended by his servant, his horse suddenly took fright near Bickleigh-bridge, and threw him with such violence as to cause his immediate death. The deceased was in the prime of life, and in his private and professional character highly esteemed and respected.

A most melancholy circumstance occurred lately at Sidmouth. Mr. Morris, a respectable tradesman of that place, supposing his family to be infected with the itch, sent to a druggist for a portion of *Sulphur Vicum*, which, instead of using it externally, was taken internally by himself, his wife, and a child about two years of age; the two last died after a very short time, but the man lingered about three hours, and then expired; one of the sons being out of the way, escaped

escaped taking the medicine, and an infant of six weeks old, from its tender age, was omitted from having the fatal dose. The first medical men in the neighbourhood were resorted to, whose assistance were unavailable; the chemists say it is probable that some lead ore may have been combined with the *sulphuricum*.

DURHAM.

At the quarter Sessions for this county, Thomas Dent, of Bolam, farmer, was found guilty of cruelty, as an overseer, to a poor woman, named Eleanor Wait, within the township of Bolam. It appeared in evidence, that Wait, in September last, came within the township of Bolam, and was taken ill: that Dent made her lie night and day in his cow-house, on a little straw, covered only with two or three pokes. That she was ill from Wednesday, and continued in this situation until the Monday following, when she died there,—that from the Saturday morning to the Sunday morning, the day preceding her death, he allowed her to be in his cow-house, without a shift or cap, or the least particle of clothing. He was sentenced "*To be imprisoned one week, and fined FIVE POUNDS.*"

Died. At Durham, aged 76, Mrs. Judith Sharp, sister of Mr. Granville Sharp, and the late Dr. Sharp, prebendary of Durham, and archdeacon of Northumberland.

ESSEX.

Married. At Gosfield, Robert Gage Rookwood, Esq. of Goldham Hall, Suffolk, to Miss O'Donald, niece to the Marchioness of Buckingham.

Died. At Thorndon Hall, near Brentwood, aged 46, the Right Honourable Robert Edward Lord Petre, baron of Writtle. He had survived his father not quite eight years. Urbanity of disposition, unaffected politeness, and affability of manners, added dignity to his rank, and conciliated the estimation of the distinguished circle in which he moved, nor were his amiable qualities less conspicuous to those of an humble sphere, and to his dependants he was liberal and beneficent. The fortitude with which he bore the afflictions that deprived the world of his many virtues, was characteristic of a firm and exalted mind. His loss is universally regretted by all who enjoyed his society and knew how to appreciate his worth, and must be sincerely felt by his widow and numerous offspring. In him the poor of the surrounding villages have to lament the loss of a princely benefactor, his tenants a beneficent landlord, and his servants and dependants a kind and affectionate master. The Hon. William Petre, his Lordship's eldest son, now about sixteen, succeeds to the title and estates.—At Colchester, aged 41, Mr. William Reed, Deputy Provincial Grand Master of Free Masons for this county.—Aged 67, Mrs. Anne C. Dudley, relict of the late Mr. Dudley, of Wendlebury, Oxon. During life, her virtues and suavity of disposition endeared her to a wide circle of friends, and in sickness she displayed a fortitude, evincing the most elevated sentiments, her characteristic equanimity was not disturbed by approaching dissolution, but she died as she had lived—the admiration of all who knew her.—J. Spardon, of West Mersea, Esq. If benevolence of heart, universal philanthropy, and uprightness of principle, constitute the value of our fellow-creatures, it may be justly said Mr. Spardon possessed those truly estimable virtues in an eminent degree, and as his life was exemplary, so is his death sincerely regretted, by his family and numerous friends. By the unfortunate poor of the neighbourhood in which he resided, his loss will be severely felt.

GLOUCESTERSHIRE.

Married. At Bristol, John Porter, Esq. of Paradise-house to Miss Gilbert, of Castle Green.—At Cheltenham, Thomas Bridge Hughes, Esq. barrister at law, to Mariamne Elizabeth Ann, only daughter of Mr. Robert St. John Lucas, of Bath.

Died. At Gloucester, John Packer, Esq. late of Harfield Court, one of his Majesty's Justices of the Peace for the county.—Aged 85, Stephen Woodfield, Esq.—At Painswick, aged 81, Mrs. Roberts, widow of John Roberts, formerly

formerly a merchant in London.—At *Bristol*, on the day which completed his 28th year, the Rev. John Hearnshaw, one of the Methodist pastors of that city, who during a long and painful illness, was a witness to the power and excellence of the religion, which he had recommended to others. His ministerial qualifications were extraordinary. To a sound and discriminating understanding, which knew how to seize the most interesting and important views of his subject, was added an eloquence the most impressive, by which his hearers were charmed and their attention secured; whilst he, from the abundance of a heart, thoroughly imbued with revealed truth, described the beauty of holiness in glowing colours, and urged every motive which could influence in the pursuit of it. Hence his ministry was highly acceptable and useful, wherever he was stationed, and many who have derived the greatest advantages from his labours, will lament to hear that his life is cut short in the midst of usefulness.

HAMPSHIRE.

Married. At *Southampton*, Captain Harvey, of the 18th light dragoons, to Lady Honoria Woodgate, eldest daughter of the Right Hon. Earl of Cavan, and widow of the late Captain Woodgate.—Captain Gilbert Heathcote, R. N. youngest son of Sir William Heathcote, Bart. of Hursley, to Miss Ann Lyell, youngest daughter of Mrs. Lyell, of Southampton.—At *Ringwood*, George Read, Esq. of Alderholt Park, to Frances, third daughter of the late Mr. Henry Oakes, of Ringwood.—At *Leekford*, William Morant, Esq. of Appleshaw, to Miss Sarah Dowling.

Died. At *Southampton*, aged 71, Lady Hughes, wife of Admiral Sir Richard Hughes, Bart.—Mrs. A. B. Greene, widow of the late Barnaby Greene, Esq.—At *Titchfield*, John Adam Carter, Esq. an Alderman of Portsmouth, and formerly mayor of that borough.—At *Westbourne*, Thomas Whitecomb, Esq. Major of the Alverstoke Volunteers.

HEREFORDSHIRE.

Died. At *Hereford*, aged 76, John Cam, Esq. receiver general for the county.—At *Much-marcle*, near Ledbury, aged 46, the Rev. James Roberts, D. D., one of the chaplains to his Royal Highness the Prince of Wales, rector of Abbey Dore and Much-marcle. The affability of his manners, and his liberality of conduct, as well on the difficult subject of tythes, as on other occasions, procured him the esteem of the highest orders of his neighbours and parishioners, whilst his unbounded generosity towards the poor equally engaged their respect and affections.

HERTFORDSHIRE.

Died. The Rev. Thomas Bargas, rector of Read with Barkway, and of Trayford, in Sussex. He was one of the justices of the peace for this county, and while officiating in that capacity was seized with convulsive spasms, and expired in a few hours.—Mr. Grist, cattle dealer, of Ivy. A gentleman who was returning to town from Watford observed, near Fordslane, a horse fastened, apparently accidentally, to a gate, with the reins entangled, and, on alighting, discovered a person in a ditch, at about twenty yards distance from the horse, who turned out to be Mr. Grist. His face and head appeared dreadfully disfigured. Mr. G. was conveyed in a senseless state to a house near the spot, where he expired in half an hour. The horse had been down, as appeared by the saddle, and it was concluded had fallen on the deceased, who died of the fracture on his head. Coroner's verdict—"accidental death."—At *Hoddesdon*, aged 80, William Mildward, Esq.

HUNTINGDONSHIRE.

Married. At *St. Ives*, Mr. William Faux, jun. of Sutton, in the Isle of Ely, to Miss Susan Rugely, youngest daughter of the late Matthew Rudgely, Esq. of Potton, Bedfordshire.

KENT.

KENT.

Married. At *Gravesend*, Edward Bullingham, Esq. to Miss Henrietta Elizabeth Cruden.—At *Lewisham*, William Hayley, Esq. of Felpham, Sussex, to Mary, third daughter of John Welford, Esq. of Blackheath.

Died. At *Dover*, John Bazely, Esq. Admiral of the Blue, in the 69th year of his age, leaving two sons, both Post-captains of the Royal Navy.—At *Canterbury*, Benjamin Kelley, Esq. formerly of St. John's College, Cambridge.—Mrs. Thomson, relict of the Rev. Henry Thomson, of Kenfield-house.—At *Sandwich*, aged 46, Mrs. Slaughter, wife of Edward Slaughter, Esq. and eldest daughter of T. Moulden, Esq. of Rochester.

LANCASHIRE.

At the late assizes, Joseph Hanson, Esq. was tried upon an indictment for having unlawfully encouraged a number of persons to riot, (iv. 85.) before Sir Simon Le Blanc and a special Jury.—Sergeant Cockell addressed the Jury on the part of the Crown. It appeared that the weavers assembled in great numbers on the 24th of May, near Manchester; that the next morning they again assembled, much increased in numbers; that Mr. Starkie, the Borough-reeve, strove to persuade them to disperse, but in vain. In the afternoon, they were increased to about 10,000; and the magistrates, preceded by a party of the 4th dragoons, came to the ground, and the riot act was read. About this time, the defendant arrived on horseback, attended by his groom; he went up to Captain Trafford (who commanded the dragoons) and asked, might he speak to the people? Captain T. said, not unless he could persuade them to depart peaceably; but he thought his (the defendant's) presence would irritate them; and he told him, that he would oblige him if he would leave the field. This he did not immediately; but as he rode along the people huzza'd, and he pulled off his hat, and spoke to them. The witnesses for the prosecution swore, that they heard him use expressions to the following effect:—"My lads, your cause is good—be firm, and you will succeed."—"I will support you as far as three thousand pounds will go, and if that will not do, I will go further."—"Nadin and his faction shall not drive you from the field this day."—"I am sorry your bill is lost.—My father was a weaver, I am a weaver, and have got my money by your industry, and I am the weaver's friend." He afterwards left the field, and rode towards his own house. To prove this, a serjeant and two corporals, of the 4th dragoons, and two constables, were called. Mr. Raine made a most eloquent speech for the defendant, and said he should call many respectable witnesses to prove that he, on that day, was constantly advising the people to be peaceable, and retire to their homes. The groom who attended the defendant the whole of the time, said he never heard his master make use of the expressions sworn to by the other witnesses; that when the dragoons drew their swords, his master's horse becoming restive, he slipped off, walked a little away, and then mounted the groom's horse and rode off. Mr. Stennett, Mr. Norris, Mr. C. Satterthwaite, Mr. Brierley, and a number of others, deposed to the defendant's exhorting the people to refrain from mischief. None of these witnesses heard him make use of the other expressions ascribed to him. The Jury, after a few minutes consideration, returned a verdict of *guilty*. The defendant will receive his sentence in the Court of King's Bench, next term.

The expenditure of the Liverpool Workhouse for the last year, amounted to 33,094l. 19s. 4d., and the balance in favour of the parish, including stock of provisions, and other articles in the workhouse on the 25th March, per valuation 4,391l. 5s. 3d., is 7,814l. 7s.—The average number of paupers in the workhouse, from the 31st March 1808, to 25th March 1809, has been 1,142 persons.

Married. At *Manchester*, Mr. Robert Elles Cunliffe, attorney at law, to Harriet, second daughter of the late Thomas Potter, Esq.—At *Preston*, Richard Prescott, Esq. of Dalton, to Miss Addison, only daughter of the late Mr. Addison, of Rufford-lodge.

LEICESTERSHIRE.

LEICESTERSHIRE.

Married. At *Leicester*, R. Bankart, Esq. to Miss Stevens, daughter of Richard Stevens, Esq.

Died. At *Hinkley*, after a long and painful illness, which he supported with the utmost patience and resignation, William Francis Stapleton, second son of Major General Stapleton, and nephew to Lord Le Despenser.—At *Higworth*, aged 82, Catharine, relict of the Rev. Robert Ingram, late vicar of Wormingford and Boxted, in Essex.—At *Ashby-de-la-Zouch*, aged 69, Ellis Shipley Pestill, Esq. attorney at law. A gentleman, whose extensive legal knowledge and indefatigable zeal in his clients' cause, justified his selection professionally, for the conducting of many important transactions, as well public as private; whose love of literature and of the arts, coupled with liberal manners and an easy unaffected address, rendered his society an object of very general desire; and, who, amidst his other pursuits, did not neglect to study and observe that law by which men shall be judged hereafter.

LINCOLNSHIRE.

Married. At *Grimsby*, Mr. Edward Carritt, Ensign in the Grimsby volunteer corps, to Miss Lister, only daughter of R. Lister, Esq. mayor of Grimsby.

Died. At *Boston*, Christopher Boughton, Gent. brother to John Boughton, Esq. mayor of that borough.—At *Spalding*, universally regretted, Dr. John Wilson, who had practised in that town and neighbourhood with great credit for nearly twenty years, having succeeded Dr. John Wainman in 1789.—At *Glantham*, Mr. John Hemmingway, wool-factor, one of the magistrates of that borough.—On Good Friday, at *Louth*, aged 68, Mrs. Uvedale, relict of the late Rev. Robert Uvedale, D. D. rector of Langton, near Spilsby. She was the daughter of Bennet Langton, Esq. of Langton, by Diana his wife, daughter of Edmund Turner, Esq. of Stoke Rochford. It is remarkable that this lady had often expressed a desire that, when she died, it might be on a Good Friday.—At *Spridlington*, aged 95, George Greenham. He had been clerk and sexton of the parish for the long period of sixty-two years, performing the duties of the office till within the last two months. He had married four wives, all of that parish, over whose several graves he had devoutly said *Amen*.

A most afflicting circumstance occurred on Thursday, the 6th instant, in a place called High-Wood, in the parish of Torksey, about six miles from Lincoln. About eight years ago, Mr. Joseph Gibson, of High-Wood, married his present wife; soon after which she betrayed symptoms of mental derangement, and often wandered about the fields surrounding their house in a state of intellectual suspension. After suffering under this dreadful malady for about half a year, Mrs. Gibson recovered, and continued in good health until about five weeks ago, when she again became depressed and pensive, and did not seem to give any attention to her children, of which she had three—on about four months old, the others two and three years. In consequence of the distressing situation into which she had relapsed, a person, of Saxilby, named Mary Noble, was lately engaged to attend upon Mrs. Gibson, and to assist in the care of the family. This person gave the following evidence before Mr. DRURY, the coroner, whose public services have been called for by the melancholy catastrophe:—

“On Tuesday morning last Mrs. Gibson came into the sitting room, about a quarter past nine o'clock, I spoke to her, but did not remark any alteration in her person or behaviour. The inner door of the house was shut; the outer door, near to it, was open, and Mrs. Gibson had the key of it. She sat in the room for a short time, very composedly, and then said she would go into the garden, and that the two elder children should go with her. She led the children to the door, one in each hand: she shut the inner door with violence, and at that moment I observed she got hold of the children's arms with her left hand. The manner of shutting the door alarmed me; I ran to it; but before I reached it, Mrs. Gibson had locked the outer door. I then became more alarmed, knowing the well was only about six yards from the house, and with a violent effort I succeeded in breaking open the door; which I had just accomplished when Mrs. Gibson stood before me: she looked wild and agitated; and before

before I could speak, clapped her hands, and exclaimed, I have put them both in! I looked into the well, and saw both children lying in the water. At this moment Joseph Newby, a young man, servant to Mr. Gibson, came to us, and Mrs. Gibson was forced into the house. Newby went down into the well, by means of the well-chain, and got both the children upon his knees, (although the well is twelve yards deep, and had ten feet of water in it): I endeavoured to draw them up, and three times raised them to some height, when I found my strength insufficient, and was obliged to let them go down again. At the time of my making the third attempt, Mrs. Gibson rushed out of the house, and ran very fast: I thought she was making for the pond, and left the man and the children to go after her." Mr. Gibson and some assistants providentially arrived at this instant, and the servant-man and the two children were drawn up, after remaining in the well nearly three quarters of an hour. Ann, the elder child, about three years old, was dead, her skull being fractured by the force with which, it is supposed, she was precipitated against the side of the well by her mother; the other child was not hurt. The Coroner's Jury sat on Wednesday, the 12th instant, and returned a verdict of *Wilful Murder* against *Ann Gibson*, the mother.

NORFOLK.

Married. Abbot Upcher, Esq. of Tompson, to Miss Wilson, eldest daughter of the Rev. Henry Wilson, of Kirby-lane.

Died. At *Norwich*, William Hammond, Esq. of Potter Gate-street,

NORTHAMPTONSHIRE.

Married. At *Northampton*, Mr. Henry Marshall, of Newport-Pagnall, Bucks, to Mrs. Lockett, widow of Mr. Lockett, and daughter of the late Mr. Alderman Gudgeon.—At *Great-Milton*, Edward Bowles Symes, Esq. of Lincoln College, Oxford, to Mary Anne, the only daughter of W. Jemmett, Esq. of Milton-house, near Tetsworth, in the county of Oxford.—At *North Collingham*, the Rev. William Nicholls, to Miss Milns.

Died. The Rev. Samuel Barwick, rector of Burton, formerly of Queen's college, Oxford.—In his 34th year, at *Wellingborough*, John Arden, Esq. late Major in the Third, or King's own Dragoons, and eldest son of the late Rev. John Arden, of Longcroft-hall, Staffordshire.—At *Blatherwick*, near Stamford, Mrs. Wilkinon, third daughter of Henry O'Brien, Esq. She was subject to epileptic fits, and was found dead in the drawing-room, where she had been left alone only a few minutes.—At *Thrapstone*, James Vaughan. He had gone out in the evening with a lantern to meet his father, who was then expected to be on his return from Aldwinkle, a village distant about two miles. It appears, that his father, who was then coming home, saw a light at a distance, moving in different directions, and suspecting it might be some one in quest of him, he made for the light, and having arrived within call, the son cried out—"Stop, father, or you are lost, as well as I." At that instant the son fell into the river, which ran between them, struggled a few seconds, and sank, to rise no more, but as a corpse. The father witnessed the melancholy event, but was not able to give any assistance.

NORTHUMBERLAND.

Died. In December last, in the *Mediterranean*, in the 15th year of his age, Mr. John Toppin, Midshipman on board the *Pomone*, of 40 guns, Captain Barrie, and son of Captain Toppin, of Newcastle. He was killed by a shot from a battery on Cape Sicil. The following extract of a letter from Captain Barrie shews, that, had he lived, he would have done honour to the country in whose service he fell:—"I know it will alleviate the sorrow of an old soldier to learn, that though his son is dead, he fell in action whilst gallantly performing his duty. I had directed the *Pomone's* boats to be prepared to cut off part of a French convoy, becalmed under Cape Sicil; while the boats were getting ready, the youth's zeal to distinguish himself induced him to contrive to get on board one of them, (for being a young sailor, he was not yet appointed to any boat.)

boat.) The unfortunate catastrophe of his first essay is sincerely lamented by me and his shipmates, for his good qualities had endeared him to us all."

OXFORDSHIRE.

The Rev. Dr. Phillimore of Christ-Church, is appointed Chancellor of the Diocese, in the room of the late Dr. Lawrence.

Mr. William James, B.A. of Oriel College, is elected a Fellow of that society, and Mr. Matthew Rolleston, a Fellow of University College, on Sir Simon Rennel's foundation.

The Rev. Francis Hungerford Brickenden, M.A. Fellow of Worcester College, and the Rev. William Everett, M.A. Fellow of New College, are admitted Proctors; and the Rev. Thomas Harward, and the Rev. Walter Williams, M.A. Fellows of Worcester College, the Rev. John Egerton Rathbone, and Rev. John Sherer, M.A. Fellow of New College, Pro Proctors.

The following gentlemen have been admitted to degrees. BACHELORS OF ARTS, Messrs. Walter Long, of Oriel College; John Villar, of Worcester; John Simpson, of St. Edmund Hall; John T. J. C. Le Mesurier, and John Batt Bingham, of Brazenose College. MASTERS OF ARTS, Mr. John Gould Gent. of University College; Rev. Richard Waller White, Rev. John Lightfoot, and Rev. Thomas Cocker Adams, of Merton; Rev. Lloyd Loring, of Magdalen; Rev. William Handbury, of Christ-Church; Rev. Charles Chisholm, Rev. Philip Jennings, and Rev. Charles Edward Collins, of Worcester; Rev. Charles Frederic Parker, of Pembroke; Mr. Richard Stephens and Rev. Thomas Knox, of Brazenose; Rev. Blakey Cooper, of Wadham; and Rev. Thomas Phelps, of Jesus College, B.A.

The Rev. Thomas Penrose, L. L. B. Fellow of New College, is presented to the rectory of Hampstead, Magna, Berks.

Married. At Henley, the Rev. J. P. Hewlett, of Magdalen College, Oxford, to Miss Benzeville, of Henley.—At Holywell, Henry Towsey, Esq. of Oxford, to Frances, youngest daughter of the Rev. Benjamin Budge, late of Wheatfield.

Died. At Oxford, aged 63, Mr. Bennett, many years sub-treasurer of Christ-Church.—Aged 102, Mr. Thomas Stevens, many years servant of Magdalen College.

SHROPSHIRE.

Died. At the Citadel, near Hawkston, George Downward, Esq. many years steward to the late Sir Richard Hill, Bart. He executed the charge committed to him with the greatest integrity, punctuality, and diligence, and his loss will be severely felt, not only by his widow and children, to whom he was an affectionate husband and indulgent father, but also by his employer, and by all those with whom he had any transaction.—At the Quintain, near Hales Owen, aged 84, Mr. Joseph Moore, land surveyor. Few men were better versed in the abstruse parts of mathematical learning, the whole of which he had attained without any other aid than what he gleaned from books and by many years intense study and application. Though he lived in apparent obscurity, he was a valuable and useful member of society, within his limited sphere; and his death, though at an advanced period, is regretted by those who have long been benefited by his friendship and advice.

SOMERSETSHIRE.

Credulity.—"Bath, March 31st. The destruction of this good city, by a convulsion of the earth, that should cause "Beacon Hill and Beechen cliff to kiss each other," was predicted to come to pass on this day! The tremendous sentence was reported to have been foretold, according to various accounts, either by that arch seer Joanna Southcott, by a certain notorious resident expounder of future events; or by some old woman, who is said to have derived her information from a good-natured angel, whom she met on one of her surrounding hills. From whatever source this silly blasphemous report originated, sorry and ashamed are we to say, that it had such an effect upon the weak minds of many of

of our inhabitants and visitors, as to render some of the former truly unhappy, and—will it be credited, that it had absolutely instigated crowds of the latter to quit the city! The hour of the portentous calamity (12 o'clock) is now passed, and how must the credulous blush to think that they could in an age so enlightened, give a moment's belief to such impious nonsense? The origin of this alarm is said to be as follows:—Two noted cock-feeders, who live near the before-mentioned famous hills; met by accident some time ago, at a public-house, and after much boasting on both sides, a match was made to fight their favorite cocks on Good Friday; but fearing the Magistrates' might interfere, if it became public, they named the spirited animals after their respective walks, as they term it, and in the agreement it was specified accordingly, that Mount Beacon should meet Beechen Cliff, precisely at twelve o'clock on Good Friday. This was mentioned with cautions of secrecy to their sporting friends; and at last coming to the ears of some poor credulous beings, who were totally unacquainted with the intended match, they took it in its plain sense, and absolutely believed it to be a fact; and as stories seldom lose by being repeated, each one added what his fears or fancy framed, and swelled the marvellous tale, at last, into the before stated prodigious prophecy. So much for the credulity of the enlightened inhabitants of Bath, in the year 1809.

P. S. "The 1st. of April, this year, unfortunately for the projectors of the earthquake, was on a Saturday, instead of a Friday."

Married. At Bath, Capt. John Chetham, of the 61st regiment, to Isabella Sarah, only daughter of S. McConnel, Esq.—John Thompson, Esq. eldest son of Ross Thompson, Esq. of Lawrence Town, to Helen, youngest daughter of John Robertson, Esq.—Chas. Cobb, Esq. grandson of Thomas Cobb, Esq. of Marlborough-buildings, Bath, to Miss Conway, of the Crescent.—At Frome, the Rev. Theophilus Prosser, Master of the Grammar school at Frome, to Miss Newport, second daughter of Edward Newport, Esq. of Keyford House.—At Taunton, Edward Jefferies Esdaile, of Terhill House, Esq. to Miss Drake, daughter of Mr. Clement Drake, solicitor.—At Bedminster, William Vincent, Esq. banker, of Alton, Hampshire, to Miss Clementina Atwood, of Somerset-square, Bristol.—At Harborne, John, eldest son of Jos. Freeman, Esq. of Pedmore Hall, Worcestershire, to Mary Anne, second daughter of the late William Carless, Esq. of Ravenhurst, Staffordshire.

Died. At Bath, Mrs. Erskine, wife of Alexander Erskine, Esq. of Balhall, North Britain.—Aged 57, Mr. Walter Smith, treasurer of the Theatres-Royal, Bath and Bristol.—At Bathford, aged 56, Charles Chapman, Esq. formerly of the Civil Establishment in India, son of the late Colonel Charles Chapman, and nephew of the late Archdeacon and Rector of Bath. At Road, Mrs. Noad, wife of Jonathan Noad, Esq.

We insert the following extract at the request of a correspondent.

Bath, March 35th, 1809.

A beautiful young lady, in a neighbouring city, was lately rescued from the most imminent danger of being burned to death. As the method of her preservation from this dreadfully calamitous situation might be successfully adopted in like cases, a minute detail of all the circumstances ought to be generally known. Her muslin dress, being touched by a candle, caught fire, and the flame instantly blazed above her head. Fortunately two of her sisters were in her chamber. One sister with a long and strong pair of scissors, blunt at both points, with great expedition and steady resolution, cut through all her clothes on the hind part of her neck all down her back; that is, through her gown, her stays in the space between two whalebones, her shift, and the bindings of her petticoats. As one sister was thus employed, the other slit up the gown at the wrists; and then immediately, with a pair of tongs from the fender, took firm hold of the clothes on fire, upon the fore part of the neck, and pulled them forcibly forward and downward from the shoulders; when all the garments instantly dropped off upon the floor, and were thrown into the chimney in a blaze. The time between the commencement of the fire, and till the young lady was rescued from all danger, was less than two minutes. The flame had scorched her face and neck, so as to be very painful for some hours; but not even a blister had arisen. A delay of but a few minutes longer, would have occasioned

occasioned incurable mischief; either death or deformity must have been the inevitable consequence. It may be proper to explain how these measures of prevention were so promptly and successfully executed. All the sisters had previously received complete instructions from their parents in what method to proceed in such a dreadful emergency, if their muslin dress should catch fire. They had frequently consulted together how to act in the moment of alarming danger. Each of them had provided a proper pair of scissors for the purpose. It is impossible to describe the extacy of joy, which the sisters and the parents expressed upon this happy occasion. They united in fervent thanksgivings to Providence for this wonderful deliverance from so dreadful a calamity.

STAFFORDSHIRE.

Married. At *Mayfield*, William Greaves, M. D. of Derby, to Miss Evans, only daughter of the Rev. William Evans.

Died. At the episcopal palace of *Lichfield*, aged 66, Mrs. Anna Seward, author of "*Louisa*," "*A Monody on Major Andre*," a "*Life of Dr. Darwin*," and various other pieces long since well known to the public.

SUFFOLK.

Died. At *Fornham St. Martin*, near Bury, aged 70, the Rev. Edward Richardson, rector of Kilmogue and Rathernon, in the county of Kildare.—At *Lowestoft*, aged 65, Mr. Thomas Tripp. The estimation in which he was justly held was shewn by the manner in which his funeral was attended. Youth and age, wealth and poverty, each shewed their respect for departed worth. Above three-fourths of the whole of the population of *Lowestoft* followed him to his grave. It was not idle curiosity that influenced this multitude; the integrity, the piety, the benevolence of the deceased, were recollected by all; and the widow's tear, the orphan's cry, the indigent deprived of their benefactor, and the pious separated from their associate, gave an interest to the scene which will be long remembered. In the evening a funeral sermon was preached to his memory, in the Methodist chapel, he being the founder of the society at *Lowestoft*.

SURREY.

Married. At *Guildford*, Henry Brandon, Esq. of Aldersgate-street, to Sarah, eldest daughter of Henry Woodthorpe, Esq.—At *Mortlake*, the Rev. Stanier Porten, to Miss Harriet Saltren Willett, daughter of the late Augustus Saltren Willett, Esq. of Port Hill, in the county of Devon.

Died. At *Chandler's Hatch*, near Newington, aged 28, in consequence of leaping from a three pair of stairs window, Mrs. Mary Amelia Nollings. She had from her childhood been subject to romantic dreams, and scarcely a night passed but she walked in her sleep, and in some instances had been known to go into the garden. Her husband became so habituated to this custom, that when he heard her he would call to her, and she would return to bed, without recollecting the circumstance in the morning. In this instance he heard the window go up, and jumped out of bed, but the poor woman was too quick to be saved. She lived several hours in torture, and was sensible to the last.—At *Battersea Rise*, after an illness of only two days, having been taken ill at the Bank on Tuesday, Alexander Champion, Esq. one of the Directors of the Bank of England, and of the London Dock Company, universally respected, and regarded as a man of an amiable and benevolent disposition, and great suavity of manners.—At the *Horns Tavern, Kennington*, after complicated afflictions of body and mind, Mr. E. E. Townsend (late of Covent-garden Theatre), aged 43 years. He has left a widow, two children, and an orphan niece (the latter having been entirely supported by his bounty since the death of her parents) altogether unprovided for. The situation of this family will excite the sympathy, as the death of Mr. Townsend will insure the regret of an extensive circle of respectable friends, and all who were acquainted with his worth and the struggles he made to discharge all the duties of his station. A troop of the

Surrey Yeomanry Cavalry, of which Mr. T. had been a member, with a detachment of the Lambeth Volunteers, attended his interment and performed the usual solemnities of military funeral in procession, and at the grave.

SUSSEX.

On Tuesday, March 28, between one and two o'clock, the town of Horsham was visited by a storm more alarming than any that had before occurred there within the memory of the oldest inhabitant. The tempest appeared to run in a south-west direction, with a thick and gloomy atmosphere, and after many awful flashes of lightning, and tremendous elementary explosions, produced hail with a degree of violence that dealt destruction to the windows and to the cucumber glasses in the different gardens, which have likewise suffered exceedingly, as in many the trees and shrubs exhibit more the appearance of having been stripped of their blossoms and buds, by the hand of intention, than by the casual effect of an uncontrollable cause. The hail-stones were from two to three inches in circumference, and from their uneven formation, appeared like detached and rugged pieces of ice, covering the street nearly shoe deep; and, on their yielding to the influence of the warmth that succeeded, many houses, for a short time, were flooded. The storm, though so heavy and violent, was limited chiefly to the town; the neighbourhood, in many places, being wholly ignorant of the circumstance, until report conveyed it, and particularly at Coolhurst, the seat of the Earl of Galloway.

Married. At *Lewes*, G. Willmott, Esq. of Southover, to Miss Glover, only daughter of the late James Glover, Esq.

Died. At *Brighton*, Mrs. Soame, of Henrietta-street, Cavendish-square. This venerable lady brought up the Viscountess Perceval (though no relation) from her earliest infancy; and by whom she was attended with filial piety in her last moments.—At *Arundel*, aged 57, Sir George Pecknell, Knt. brewer.—At *East Grinstead*, aged 100, Hannah Dawes. She retained all her faculties till the day of her dissolution, and on the anniversary of her ninety-ninth year, walked half a mile.—On Tuesday, the 28th ult. at *Chichester*, aged 80, Mr. Wm. Wittman. His death was occasioned by a fall through a trap door in a grocer's shop in that city, which had not been properly secured. On stepping into the shop, the poor old gentleman was precipitated into the cellar below; by which fall he was so dreadfully bruised, that he died in consequence, in less than two hours afterwards. He was the oldest riding officer of the port of Chichester, and father of Dr. Wittman, who some time since published his travels through Turkey, &c.

WARWICKSHIRE.

Died. At *Birmingham*, William Bache, M. D.—At *Tachbrook*, in the 101st year of his age, Thomas Smith, Esq. whose benevolence to the poor will cause his death to be regretted by all those who knew him. He retained his faculties to the last moment, and used to walk twenty miles a day in superintending his farms, and had performed that arduous task in the week preceding his death.—At *Ashted*, Mr. Thomas Green, late engineer to the Warwick and Birmingham Canal Company.

A catastrophe, unequalled in horror since the murder of Miss Ray, by Mr. Hackman, in 1779, has involved the family of Sir Stewkley Shuckburgh, Bart. of Upper Shuckburgh, near Rugby, and the family of Lieut. Sharpe, of the Bedford Militia, in the deepest distress. Lieut. Sharpe having paid his addresses to Miss Shuckburgh, which were disapproved by the family, formed (if he should be disappointed in obtaining the object of his affection) the horrid determination of putting a period to his own, and her existence, which he carried into effect on Sunday morning, March 26, in a summer-house in the plantations of Shuckburgh park. They were overheard in earnest discourse by the butler, as if Lieut. Sharpe was persuading her to elope with him; and, as Miss Shuckburgh uttered the words, "Never, no never," a pistol went off—and, in a few seconds, another. The man immediately tried to force the door, but could not get admittance: he heard no groan, or noise, but that occasioned by

by the fall of each. The family was now alarmed; and, upon the door of the summer-house being broken open, the shocking spectacle of two dead corpses presented itself! Two pistols had been used, and a third was found in the gentleman's pocket. His pocket-book lay open on the seat, and near to it a paper, on which was written, with a pencil, "*I feared I should not have had resolution to perform the dreadful deed, but I find I have.*" This was probably written during the few minutes of suspense, before Miss Shuckburgh came into the garden. A few days before this dreadful occurrence took place, Lieut. Sharpe is said to have disclosed to a brother officer his great unhappiness on account of Miss Shuckburgh, and to have added, with indignation, "If she is not to be my wife, we shall both, in a short time, be either in heaven or hell."—After a most deliberate investigation of all the circumstances of this most affecting and awful event, before John Tomes, Esq. and a respectable Jury, and the Rev. Mr. Bromfield, a magistrate of the county, a verdict of *lunacy* was given respecting Lieut. Sharpe, and that Miss Shuckburgh died by his hand. Lieut. Sharpe had been occasionally for some weeks preceding in a state of mental derangement, and in confinement.

WILTSHIRE.

Married. At *Calne*, the Rev. C. Phillott, student of Christ Church, Oxford, and rector of Kingston-Deverill, in this county, to Frances, only daughter of Francis Pender, Esq. Rear Admiral of the White, of Hardenhuish-house, in the same county.—At *Devizes*, George Evans, Esq. Major of Brigade of the Portsmouth district, to Miss Spalding, only child of Dr. Spalding, of Devizes.

Died. At *Warminster*, in a fit of apoplexy, aged 39, John Speed Trowd, Esq. late of Crescombe, Somersetshire.—At *Meere*, the Rev. Thomas Groves, rector of Weymouth.

WORCESTERSHIRE.

Married. At *Powick*, Robert Stone, Esq. of Somers-hall, to Miss Blew, daughter of John Blew, Esq.

YORKSHIRE.

At a very full meeting of the inhabitants of Leeds, it was unanimously resolved to apply to Parliament in the present session for an Act to amend the Leeds water-works Act, to compel residents to clean the street in front of their houses, to extend the lamps, to appoint additional overseers in such divisions of the town as the increased population may require, and for the erection of a sessions-house, rotation-office, officers for the lieutenancy and commissioners of taxes, guard-house, ammunition store, engine-house, &c. &c. These are measures for the adoption of which there seems to be a prime necessity. The population of the borough is larger than that of many counties. The present prison and court-house are universally allowed to be disgraceful: if, therefore, the proposed improvements are carried into effect, we hope that there can be no objection to the *Riding* sessions being still continued as formerly. A committee was appointed to prepare the heads of a bill to the above effect, who are to make their report to another meeting of the inhabitants of the borough, to be called prior to its adoption.

State of the Yorkshire Woollen Manufactory, as given in at the last Pontefract Session, from 25th March, 1808, to 25th March, 1809:—Milled this year. *Narrow Cloths*, 14,624 pieces, making 5,309,007 yards; last year, 161,826 pieces, or 5,931,253 yards; Decrease, 17,192 pieces; 622,246 yards.—*Broad Cloths*, this year, 279,859 pieces, making 9,050,970 yards; last year, 262,024 pieces, or 8,422,143 yards; increase, 17,835 pieces, or 628,827 yards. Total increase in yards, 6,581.—The increase of 628,827 yards in *broad cloths* ought to be particularly remarked to those who are not acquainted with the minutiae of the manufacture, as being at least in a double proportion to the decrease in *narrows*.

Died. Aged 84, Mr. Philip Alfnaw, of Hull. He was found dead in his yard in the forenoon, near a piece of wood, which he had been seen a short time

time before in the act of chopping. He was master of a pilot-boat at the time Paul Jones was upon that coast: and falling in with a ship captured by that notorious character, the prize-master of which was dissatisfied, he took charge of her, and brought her into the Humber.—At *Osbaldwick*, Mrs. Willis, wife of the Rev. James Willis, and daughter of the late Rev. John Sarraude, rector of Sutton-upon-Derwent and Elvington.—At *Northallerton*, aged 73, H. Tod, Esq. of Whitby. In *Halifax Workhouse*, ——— Turnbull. The day previous to his death he sent for the mistress, and gave her six shillings to purchase grave-clothes at his decease. Soon after, a fellow pauper requested to have his great coat, but with this he would not part. About three next morning he got out of bed, stripped off every thing he then wore, and wrapping himself in his new garment, lay down and expired.

A more affecting case than the following has seldom occurred. The wife of Mr. Middleton, a farmer at Winmoor, near Heslerton, upon the Wolds, with her infant child, her sister, and the housekeeper, had been at a farm-house of Mr. Middleton's, at some little distance, and set out on their return home in the afternoon of Saturday se'nnight. Two men belonging to the farm had been with Mr. Middleton afterwards, and told him of the party having left the farm, but supposed, as the day was so stormy, they must have returned, with an intention of stopping there for the night. Should this not prove to be the case, the men proposed to go back immediately to Mr. Middleton, and inform him of it. Not hearing any thing from them, Mr. Middleton supposed the party had returned, and were safe. About ten o'clock at night, however, as he was going to look after some sheep near the house, his foot struck against something, which, on examination, proved to be the body of a dead child; and his astonishment and affliction may be more easily conceived than expressed, when he found it to be his own and only daughter. On making further search immediately, his wife and housekeeper, and his wife's sister, were found at a short distance, nearly lifeless; the two former are recovering, but his sister had lost the use of her limbs, and little hopes are entertained of her regaining the use of them.

WALES.

The first report of the Lancastrian school in Swansea has just been published. It states, that since the commencement in June 1806, 325 boys have been received, of whom 47 have quitted the seminary, after being taught to read, write, and to understand fully the first four rules in arithmetic. Only four had been expelled for misbehaviour, and there are now on the list 274. Of the progress of the school the account is as follows: 127 boys have learned to read their bibles and spell words of three and four syllables; 147 are learning to read words of two to five letters; 120 have been taught to write a tolerable hand; 174 are now learning to write; and 140 out of the whole number are in arithmetic, half of whom are nearly masters of the first four rules, simple and compound. Several instances have occurred in which boys have exhibited very striking proofs of ability; and the contemplative mind will not fail to observe, that 325 poor boys have been taken, as it were, from the streets, and instructed to read, write, and cypher, who, in all probability, would have never known a letter had not the Lancastrian school been established in Swansea.

Married. Humphrey Rowlands Jones, Esq. of Garthmillhall, Montgomeryshire, to Miss A. Jones, daughter of the Rev. J. Jones, Rector of Bosherton, Pembrokeshire.

Died. At *Montgomery*, aged 90, Charles Jones, Esq. grandfather to Maurice Jones, Esq. recorder of that borough, and father to the late C. T. Jones, Esq. treasurer of the county; he had filled the office of high-bailiff of Montgomery several years.—At *Upland*, in the county of Carmarthen, aged 67, Mrs. Maria Warlow.—At *Lisbon*, on the 22d of Feb. last, in the 20th year of his age, of a rapid decline, occasioned by cold and fatigue in the campaign in Portugal and Spain, John Jones Bishop, Esq. Lieutenant in the 36th regiment of foot, and eldest son of John Rees Bishop, Esq. of Dollygareg, in the county of Carmarthen.

At a general meeting of the Glamorganshire Agricultural Society, held at the Bear

Bear inn, at Cowbridge, on Tuesday the 13th ult. several medals and premiums were voted to candidates for various improvements in agriculture; amongst others, Mr. Evan Richards, of Sully, near Cardiff, obtained the society's premium for cleaning, walling-in, ditching, and making profitable a great extent of waste land in that parish which had not been ploughed within memory, and from which he obtained excellent crops last year. Mr. Richards has approved himself a most industrious and persevering man in building and improving, having within the last twenty years built upwards of forty houses in Merthyr Sully, Cadoxton, and other places, and two excellent windmills, upon a peculiar construction, near Sully, besides having rendered other extensive tracts of waste land useful.

SCOTLAND.

A cause of an uncommon and interesting nature was lately determined by the Court of Session. Mr. Donald M'Arthur, the pastor of a dissenting congregation at Port Bannatyne, in the island of Bute, brought an action against John Campbell, Esq. of Southall, upon the ground that the latter gentleman, on the 20th of October, 1805, while Mr. M'Arthur was celebrating divine service in the midst of his congregation, had violently seized upon his person, forced him on board a vessel bound for Greenock, and having landed him a few miles from that place, had, after confining him in a small inn during the night, marched him along the road as a common felon, and delivered him up to Capt. Tatham, the regulating officer for that quarter, as a fit person to serve in his Majesty's navy. That officer accordingly (as the pursuer further stated) sent him immediately on board the *Tourterelle* frigate, which speedily conveyed him out of the jurisdiction of the Scottish courts. After being detained for five weeks on board different ships of war, and suffering, as he alleged, every species of indignity and hardship, Mr. M'Arthur was discharged by express order of the Lords of the Admiralty, and furnished with a certificate, that he was never again to be impressed into his Majesty's service. The summons concluded against Mr. Campbell for 2,000 damages, with expences. Mr. Campbell, in his pleadings before the Lord Ordinary, denied several of the most aggravating circumstances of the case. In particular, he alleged that the pursuer was in the practice of preaching immoral and seditious doctrines—that he was a fit object of the impress, having been formerly employed in the herring fishery, and being consequently a sea-faring man; and that, under these circumstances, acting *bona fide* as a Justice of Peace, he conceived himself fully entitled to deliver him to Capt. Tatham. The Lord Ordinary (Lord Meadowbank) pronounced an interlocutor of considerable length, finding, for the reasons therein stated, the whole proceedings scandalous and unjustifiable; repelling the defences, whether founded on the pursuer having once been a seafaring man, or on the religious doctrines he is said to have taught, or on those seditious speeches which it was rumoured he uttered; and further finding the pursuer entitled to 105l. sterling, as a *solatium* for the wrong he suffered; together with indemnification of the expences incurred by him, personally or otherwise, in obtaining his deliverance, and expences of process. Mr. Campbell presented a petition against this judgment, to the whole court, to which answers were made by Mr. M'Arthur, and the cause was upon these pleadings advised on Tuesday by the Judges of the second division, who delivered their opinions on the point. The sentence of the Lord Ordinary was affirmed with expences.

Convulsions of the earth, resembling earthquakes, have lately been felt in various parts of the Highlands. One was felt at Dunning, in Perthshire, on the 18th of January, of which Mr. Peter Martin, surgeon, gives the following account: He was on his way home, about two in the morning, when his attention was suddenly attracted by a seemingly subterraneous noise, and his horse immediately stopping, he perceived the sound to proceed from the north-west. After continuing for about half a minute, it became louder and louder, and apparently nearer, when, all on a sudden, the earth gave a perpendicular heave, and, with a tremulous waving motion, seemed to roll or move in a south-east direction. The noise was greater during the shock than before it, and for some

some seconds after it was so loud, that it made the circumjacent mountains re-echo with the sound, after which, in the course of about half a minute, it gradually died away. At this time the atmosphere was calm, dense, and cloudy, and for some hours before and after there was not the least motion in the air. Fahrenheit's thermometer, when examined, about half an hour after the shock, indicated a temperature of 15 degrees below the freezing point of water. The preceding day had been calm and cloudy; thermometer, eight *a.m.* 14°. eight, *p.m.* 13°. The morning of the 18th was calm and cloudy, but the day broke up to sun-shine; thermometer, eight *a.m.* 19°. eight *p.m.* 16°. About the same time a similar shock was felt at the bridge of Allan, near Stirling, where it was so violent along the foot of the hills as to make the tables and chairs rattle. On the 9th of January, about half past five in the morning, a smart shock was felt at the village of Comrie, near Crief, the noise attending which was loud and greatly prolonged. During the time of the shock the air was calm and serene. The moon shone bright, and the sky was soon afterwards covered with whitish clouds, moving rapidly from N. W. to S. E. The following is the substance of a letter from Strontian, in the west of Argyleshire: "On Tuesday, the 31st of January, we distinctly felt five shocks of an earthquake. It extended over the neighbourhood, and was accompanied with a noise like distant thunder. On Wednesday there was another, on Saturday following there were two more, on Sunday two, and this day (Feb. 6) one. The first, on Saturday, was the most severe; every movable in my house was displaced, and the building much shaken, but fortunately alarm was the only consequence, as I have heard of no accident. The shocks were distinctly felt by the miners below ground; they continued only for a few seconds, and have all taken place between five and seven in the evening."

Married. At Edinburgh, Thomas Guthrie Wright, Esq. Auditor of the Court of Sessions, to Mary, youngest daughter of the late Dr. Hill, Professor of Humanity in the University of Edinburgh.—John Swinton, Esq. of Broadmeadows, to Miss Rannie, only daughter of the late John Rannie, Esq.—Captain Thomas Foriott Baugh, Royal Navy, to Mary, daughter of the late Francis Scott, Esq.—At *Taaphall*, near Bonnington, Peter Cowper, Esq. W. S. to Mary, eldest daughter of Mr. Archibald Robertson, of Leith.—At *Glenfeachan*, Argyleshire, the Rev. Malcolm McDonald, minister of Gigha and Cara, to Margaret, daughter of John Stevenson, Esq.—At *Largs*, Archibald Douglas, Esq. advocate, to Jane, eldest daughter of Francis Brown, Esq.—At *Dalswinton-house*, Leslee Grove Jones, Esq. Captain in the 1st Foot Guards, to Jean, youngest daughter of Patrick Miller, Esq. of Dalswinton.—At *Newton-Stewart*, John Fullerton, Esq. of Jamaica, to Jane, youngest daughter of Anthony McCaa, Esq.

Died. At Edinburgh, John Campbell, Esq. younger, of Shawfield, M.P. for Ayr, &c. and colonel of the Argyleshire militia.—The Right Hon. Christina Elizabeth, Dowager Countess of Kincore.—At *Kelso*, James Potts, Esq. agent for the Bank of Scotland.—At *Newlands*, in Liddisdale, aged 68, John Elliot, Esq. of Combes.—At *Elie*, Dr. John Reid.—At *Stronchrigan*, Arabella, daughter of the late Capt. James Campbell, of Stronslang.—At *Perth*, aged 70, Mrs. Margaret Moncrieff, relict of the Rev. George Murray of Lockerby.—At *Balfracks*, Alexander Menzies, Esq.—At *Aberdeen*, aged 75, William Fidler, Esq. late of Carreston, in Fife.—At *Forres*, Mrs. Elizabeth Arnot, wife of John Gordon, Esq. of Edintore.—At *Ullapool*, Robert Melville, Esq. to whose public spirit that village is in a great measure indebted for its rise and rapid progress.—At *Armada*, in Skye, John Alexander Graham, Esq. Chamberlain of Skye, and late Lieut.-Colonel of the Royal Leith Volunteers.—At *Eisdale*, aged 80, Mr. Alexander Campbell, of Barravurich.—At *Smidholm*, in the parish of Tinwald, Jean Burgess, aged 93. She had been 67 years married to one husband, and, before she died, 113 could call her mother, grandmother, and great grandmother. Thirty-seven of these were great grandchildren.—William Fisher, of Mauchline, the "Holy Willie" of Burns. In returning from a farm about three miles distance from his residence he fell into a ditch, where he was next morning found dead.—At *Kilmarnock*, aged 84, John Goldie, Esq. a man, for acuteness of apprehension, and eccentricity of ideas

ideas, equalled by few. The last 40 years of his life were almost entirely spent in the study of the science of Astronomy, in which he is said to have corrected several prevailing errors. His book upon the subject was almost ready for going to press when he died; and it is to be hoped his friends will put it into the hands of some person who will give it soon to the public. He published, some years since, a voluminous work, intitled, "The Gospel Recovered;" and a few months before his death, "A Treatise upon the Evidences of a Deity," in which he confutes all atheistical doctrines, and ably proves the existence of a God. This work will remain an everlasting testimony of his great power of reasoning and extensive information. To this gentleman Burns addressed a poem which is not to be found in every edition of his works, beginning

"O Goudie! terror of the Whigs."

IRELAND.

In the course of the last north-west circuit, the following fines were laid on the different counties for unlicensed stills, viz. Cavan, 13,000; Fermanagh, 2150; Tyrone, 6200; Donegal, 8450, Derry, 1400.

Married. At the cathedral church of Cashel, Lord Vicount Bernard, son of the Earl of Bandon, and member of parliament for the county of Cork, to Miss Broderick, daughter of his Grace the Archbishop of Cashel.

Died. At *Hampton*, near Dublin, aged 44, Alexander Hamilton, Esq. eldest son of the late Baron Hamilton, and high-sheriff of the county of Dublin. As a Representative in the House of Commons, in which he sat from the early age of twenty two, till the dissolution of the last Irish parliament, he was of unshaken integrity; and on the last great question which agitated that house, his patriotism shone conspicuous, for differing in sentiments upon that occasion with his noble patron, he resigned the representation of Belfast, and with it his lucrative place of Cursitor of the Irish Court of Chancery.—At *Rathangan*, in the county of Kildare, Mrs. Catherine Bettesworth, sister of the late General Bettesworth, of the Royal Irish Artillery.—At *Holybrooke*, Carlow, Benjamin Ball, Esq. senior Sheriff's Peer, of the city of Dublin.

Found murdered near Bantry, the Rev. Fitzgerald Tisdall, a gentleman of ancient family, nearly related to the house of Leinster. He resided for several years at Crookhaven, which sea-coast position enabled him frequently to evince his feelings as a man and a magistrate, by saving the lives and preserving the property of shipwrecked fellow-creatures. With such recommendations, it is not surprising that government should (as was the case) prefer him to a valuable living in the county of Kerry, on which he began to reside about ten months since. Occasional visits to his old residence being necessary, on Sunday the 26th of March he left Bantry to officiate at his parish church, a distance of about twelve miles. On his not returning, as expected, a search was commenced, and at length his body was found in a cave near a pass called the Priest's Leap, and conveyed to the city of Cork: where it was interred with that respect which was due to his worth, and that sympathy excited by his untimely fate. By his death an amiable wife and six unoffending children were plunged from affluence into comparative obscurity and want. No clue has yet been discovered likely to lead to a developement of this awful transaction: no public pretence can be even guessed at, therefore private and unprovoked malice must have guided the assassin.

FOREIGN OCCURRENCES.

The following account of the state of parties at Buenos Ayres, transmitted by an intelligent observer on the spot who possesses the best means of information, has been communicated to us by a correspondent, and, we doubt not, will

will prove interesting especially to our commercial readers. It was written from Buenos Ayres in November last.

"We have here two parties decidedly opposite to each other. At this moment the *Cabildo* is composed entirely of natives of Spain; the chief being Martin Alsager, a man known as the inveterate enemy to all foreigners. The natives of Spain are all more or less of the same disposition. Having so long enjoyed the advantages of a restricted trade, and viewing the certain downfall of their gains if English establishments were permitted, they are all in their hearts much more rancorous enemies of Englishmen than are the French themselves. When pressed by questions as to the manner in which Spain will shew her kindness to England in return for present succours, they say that she will repay the money lent, but that commercial favours are against her constitution; and that if in the present moment they are granted, they will certainly not endure long. And so far do they carry their hopes in that respect, that if Spain should fall, and a treaty with England become necessary, I suspect they would endeavour to mold the commercial regulations so as to render consignments to Spaniards necessary; not permitting English establishments, and endeavouring to make St. Catherine's or Rio Janeiro an entrepot where they might send their agents to make purchases. Most of the Biscayners and Catalonians likewise, being interested in the sale of their manufactures, are the strongest adherents of this party. In case of actual commotion, therefore, the *Cabildo* can count on the corps of Biscayners, most of the Catalonians, and other detachments, probably making 2000 men. Of the other party is the Viceroy, the regiment of *Patricios*, i. e. natives of this country, containing 1400 men, the Andalusers, and detachments of most of the corps, making much the most numerous body. The natives all have the words *free commerce* in their mouths, because having seen by the late coming of the English, that they could purchase what they want for nothing almost, in comparison with the immense profits which these regraters exact of them, they ardently desire an unrestricted intercourse. When the present *Cabildantes* took their seats, Alsager accepted of his station solely on the condition that no Creole should have a seat in that *Cabildo*. It is not easy to conceive the animosity these two descriptions of people bear to each other, more especially the natives of Old Spain, who, though all of them upstarts, affect the greatest contempt of the Creoles. These, on the other hand, seeing themselves squeezed solely for the profit of a few individuals, and continually lamenting, that whatever talents they may possess, they are still excluded from all offices, cannot be supposed much behindhand in hatred to their opponents. But what seems very strange is, that the natives of Old Spain are those who most wish to establish here an independent government, while the Creoles are loyal to the king of Spain. The two contending parties begin to prepare themselves for a great contest in January, when the new *Cabildo* must be elected. The Creoles hope to get a *Cabildo* of their own: the present *Cabildantes* hope to continue; and had their party been strong enough would before this time have virtually opposed the Viceroy and asserted their own power; but the confinement of some of their military adherents, and their own fears as to the strength of their party, have hitherto saved the city from civil broil."

Married. At Kingston, Jamaica, John Bourke, Esq. to Miss Hartman, daughter of the late George Hartman, Esq. of Hatton Garden.

Died. At Gibraltar, Capt. William Holcombe, youngest son of the late Rev. William Holcombe, Canon Residentiary of the cathedral of St. David.—At Philadelphia, aged 81, Mrs. Williamina Bond, the venerable mother of Pheneus Bond, Esq. his Majesty's Consul General. This respectable lady was eminently gifted with a strength of faculty unimpaired by a very advanced age, and possessed a heart whose felicity it was to dispense every act of charity and good will. Bereft of a most affectionate husband, and left with the care of a large family at a season of much peril, she acquitted herself of the double charge which devolved upon her in a manner to rivet the duty of her children, who revered her, and to excite the love and admiration of all who knew her. Of a delicate cast of mind, with a ready discernment of character, she was liberal in her opinions and tender to the failings of humanity. She was particularly

enlarly distinguished by a cheerful and benign disposition, by a force of expression and candour of sentiment which secured the confidence even of strangers. Regardless of all selfish views, she was ever zealously occupied in contributing to the happiness and comfort, or in administering to the affliction of others. Beneficent without ostentation, moral without display, a standard of rational virtue, few have so faithfully performed their great task, none have more scrupulously discharged the best duties of life. In the devout faith of a true christian, she beheld the approach of death with the firm assurance of a life well spent, and closed a long career of usefulness with a spirit undiminished by the severity of a tedious illness or the waste of fourscore years.

Major Charles Stanhope (p. 280) was second son of Earl Stanhope, by Louisa, the only daughter of Mr. Henry Greville. At an early period of life he embraced the military profession, and was soon distinguished for his assiduity in attaining a thorough knowledge of the duties attached to the several degrees of military rank. From the high opinion formed of his courage and talents, he was, about two or three years since, appointed by General Moore to be one of his aid-de-camps, a situation which coincided with his warmest wishes, for he was anxious to be the witness of, and participate in real and active service, that he might have an opportunity of proving to the world that he was not unworthy of the rank and honour conferred on him. In this capacity he attended General Moore to Sicily; but on the late expedition to Spain, Major Stanhope and his friend, Major Napier, were appointed to the command of the fifteenth regiment. The gallantry displayed by this regiment in the battle of Corunna will not soon be forgotten by their brave companions. A large portion of the men, and both the Majors fell in the action. Captain James Stanhope, who had shared in the dangers of the day as aid-de-camp to General Moore, paid the last tribute of respect and sincere affection to the remains of his brother. The fatal bullet had passed through Major Stanhope's heart, and so instantaneous must have been his death, that a sense of pain had not torn from his countenance the smile which the bravery of his soldiers and the applause of his commander had excited. At any period, but particularly in times when we may have to contend for our liberties as a nation on our own shores, the death of such a man must be regarded as a public loss, and every lover of his country will deeply lament that so many valuable lives should have been sacrificed to so little purpose. To his immediate connexions the loss of Major Stanhope is irreparable:—his manners were mild, his attachments strong, and his heart overflowed with the milk of human kindness. The affliction of his brother, who parted from him at the commencement of the action, and who almost saw him fall, may be conceived, but cannot be described. Those only can appreciate the affectionate attachment of these brothers who were witnesses of their growing years, and who can affirm, that in their breasts were never perceived those emotions of envy, those risings of jealousy, so frequently fatal to the happiness of the nearest relations.—Major Napier, of the same regiment, whose name was inserted among the killed, has returned to this country. He had received five wounds in the engagement, but his life was saved by a French drummer, who for that act received a mark of distinction, always granted upon such occasions in the French army. When taken to Marshal Soult's quarters, he received every humane attention which his situation required. The Marshal's own surgeon was desired to attend him, and he was desired to draw for what money he chose. The Marshal also ordered an account of his safety to be put in the French papers, to relieve the anxiety of his friends in England. When at Corunna, Major Napier received every possible civility from the French officers, who spoke in the highest terms of the English; and it was no slight gratification to him to hear them declare that "the English were as generous to their prisoners as they were brave in the field!" When Marshal Ney took the command at Corunna, Major Napier continued to experience the same kindness as before, and was treated rather as a brother officer than a prisoner. When the flag of truce arrived, Marshal Ney immediately gave him permission to return to England on his parole, and in the handsomest manner allowed twelve wounded English soldiers, and sixty women and children, to accompany him. But what gave Major Napier the greatest pleasure

sure, was the manner in which the French officers of every description spoke of Sir John Moore, for whose military talents and masterly retreat they expressed the highest admiration; and Marshal Soult ordered an inscribed stone to be placed on the spot where he received the mortal wound, as a tribute of respect to his memory.

RETROSPECT OF PUBLIC AFFAIRS.

THE war in Spain, which for some time seemed to languish, has acquired fresh vigour, and at this period occupies considerable attention. Marshal Soult from the north entered Portugal at Braga, on which event the sanguinary populace, massacring the General Freire d'Andrada on suspicion of treason, marched in a tumultuous manner against the enemy, but were driven back. Soult then advanced towards Oporto, in which city the same murdering spirit prevailed, but so totally unaccompanied by discipline or courage, that after a resistance of only two days, on March 29th, the place surrendered to a body of assailants much inferior in number to the defenders. In the meantime a combined force of Spaniards and Portuguese, assisted by two English frigates, recovered Vigo from the French, and made prisoners of the garrison. Other successes are said to have followed under General Romana, and in the north-western part of Spain the cause of the patriots is thought to be in a flourishing condition. In the south it is to be feared that not much hope remains of effectual resistance to the progress of the French. On March 27th a body of Spaniards was defeated near Ciudad Real by General Sebastiani, who afterwards advanced to the Sierra Morena; and at the same time a larger force under the Spanish General Cuesta, was defeated with great loss near Merida by the Duke of Belluno. By these actions Andalusia and the city of Seville appear to be laid open to the French; and from Badajoz a French army is marching into Portugal in a direct line to Lisbon, which is said to be under a great alarm. If with the English troops already in that capital, those which sailed from Portsmouth in the middle of the month under Sir Arthur Wellesley, make a timely junction, some effectual resistance may perhaps be expected.

The revolution in Sweden was immediately followed by an armistice with the Russians and Danes, and the new government is actively employed in measures for the restoration of peace. At the same time it expresses a strong desire to continue on good terms with Great Britain, but that this friendship must be made the sacrifice for peace is much to be apprehended; and the English naval commander on the Swedish Station has thought it most prudent to forbid the entrance into ports of that country of the merchant ships under his convoy.

In Germany the die is at length cast, and Austria is actually at war with France and its allies. From a most heroic address of the Archduke Charles to the Austrian army, at the head of which he is placed with extraordinary powers, it appears that "all endeavours to preserve the national independence from the insatiable ambition of a foreign conqueror have proved fruitless," and that it is necessary to have recourse to arms to defend the Austrian states from universal subjugation. The whole spirit of the address is firm and manly, and it

it cannot be doubted that this dreadful hazard is undergone from none but the most cogent and justifiable motives. The Archduke informs his army that "foreign troops in strict union with them will soon attack the common enemy." To what expectation this alludes is at present only matter of conjecture, but every friend of justice and liberty must ardently wish to see it fulfilled. The contest will be dreadful—past events, we fear, forbid sanguine hopes for the result. The last advices state that the Austrian army had entered Bavaria without opposition. Napoleon has arrived at Frankfort.

America is another quarter to which the public have been long looking with anxiety, and the intelligence from the United States is not such as to diminish it to this country. The new President, Mr. Madison, in his inaugural speech on March 4th, did not dissemble the difficulties under which the country at present labours, which he strongly contrasted with the past prosperity; at the same time he dwelt upon the firmness necessary to meet them, and declared the principles which he meant to follow in his administration, consisting of strict neutrality to belligerents, the exclusion of all foreign intrigues and partialities, and every measure proper to foster the spirit of independence, and augment internal resources. The legislature afterwards passed an act repealing the existing embargo, but imposing fresh restrictions upon the commerce of the subjects of the States with France and England. Holland, being regarded as an independent nation, is exempted from these restrictions; but as such an exemption cannot be admitted here, unless there is some understood collusion in the case, it is apprehended that an attempt to send ships to her ports will bring on direct hostilities on the part of our cruisers, which may involve the two nations in a war.

The island of Martinique was reduced under the British dominion by the capture of Fort Bourbon on Feb. 24th, after which all resistance ceased. The conquest was made with little further loss.

A considerable success to our naval arms in Europe has somewhat counterbalanced the late disgraces by land. Preparations having been made for an attack of the French fleet lying in Basque roads, the attempt was made on the evening of April 11th, by a squadron of frigates, fire-ships, and bomb-vessels under the command of Lord Cochrane, which had the effect of driving most of the enemy's ships on shore. On the next morning, however, several of them floated with the tide, and got into the river Charante, whither they could not be followed; but of those which remained, four, consisting of three line of battle ships and one of 56 guns, were destroyed by the English fleet, the whole loss of which in this spirited action, under the batteries of the Isle of Aix, does not amount to 50 in killed and wounded. Some others of the French ships were still lying in a dangerous situation. To the losses of the enemy's navy are to be added a 44-gun frigate taken off Ushant, and another of the same force in the West Indies.

At home, the spirit excited by the result of the late enquiries into the conduct of the Commander in Chief has been very active, and has produced meetings and resolutions extremely hostile to the ministry, and strongly declaratory of a public wish for the correction of abuses of every kind. The metropolis led the way in these popular proceedings; and the city of Westminster, the lively and common-council of London, the borough of Southwark, and the county

county of Middlesex, have held meetings, in which, to thanks to Mr. Wardle and other supporters of the enquiry, have been added a number of resolutions, more or less vigorous, some of them most unequivocally condemning the determination of the House of Commons, and in strong terms expressing the necessity of a reform in the representation: In other parts of the country similar meetings have been assembled in towns and counties, in which, though the magistrates have for the most part shown an attachment to the court, the popular voice has decidedly spoken on the opposite side. Keen researches into other public abuses have taken place, and a spirit is roused which will scarcely be allayed without some prudent compliances.

Parliamentary proceedings have not been highly important during the month. On April 17th, Lord Folkestone made a motion in the House of Commons for the appointment of a committee to enquire into the existence of corrupt practices in the state, as to the purchase and sale of commissions, and as to the issuing of letters of service. This, as too indefinite in its purpose, was objected to by some of the late, as well as the present ministers, and was lost by a division of 178 to 30. In the same house, on April 24th, Lord Porchester introduced a motion for a bill to prevent granting offices in reversion, on which the ministers were silent, but through their influence it was rejected by 121 to 106.

In the House of Lords, on April 21st, Earl Grey made a motion for an address censuring the conduct of government in the affairs of Spain. It was powerfully supported, but lost on a division by 145 to 92.

The committee of the House of Commons appointed to enquire into abuses in the disposal of the East India patronage, having detected a negotiation begun by Lord Castlereagh, who had just left the presidency of the Board of Controul, to barter a writership for a seat in parliament in favour of Lord Clancarty, the fact was made the ground of a motion in the House of Commons on April 25th, by Lord Archibald Hamilton, for a censure on Lord Castlereagh. After a long debate, the motion was thrown out by a ministerial majority of 216 to 167; and an amendment proposed by Mr. Canning, declaring that "there was no reason for a criminating resolution," was carried by 214 to 167.

MONTHLY COMMERCIAL REPORT.

SINCE our last report, we have to announce the arrival of a fleet of vessels from Jamaica and Tortola, under convoy of the Bacchaute man of war; as also the sailing of two West India fleets, viz. one from Portsmouth on the 23d instant, the other from Cork on the 18th instant. The latter fleet consisted of about twenty sail.

By a decree lately published in Holland it would appear a considerable change has taken place in the commercial policy of that country, although it continues to prohibit, under the same severe penalties as were previously in force, all communication whatsoever with England. This decree authorises the exportation of the following articles, from and after the first day of April; viz. butter, cheese, brandy, cambrics, manufactured copper, and printed books, besides several other commodities therein enumerated. These articles may be exported either in Dutch vessels, or those sailing under the flag of neutral or allied powers; and the ports of Amsterdam, Rotterdam, Dordrecht, Embden, &c.

are

are declared open for that purpose. The importation of hemp, pot-ash, wool, tobacco, and several other articles, is also permitted. It is moreover provided by this decree, that in order to the admission of any vessels into the harbours of that country, such vessels must either enter in ballast, or be laden with certain products of the North, as specified in the third article. Vessels laden with salt, and those for which a licence had been obtained in the years 1806 and 1807 to proceed to China for teas, are not included in this restriction.

From whatsoever motive this change in the commercial policy of the Dutch Government may have arisen, whether it have been produced by the operation of the British Orders in Council, as some are apt to imagine, or by a natural desire on the part of our enemies not only to mitigate the distresses they have so long endured, but also to conciliate and win over to their side the Government and the people of the United States of America, certain it is, this change cannot fail materially to affect the intercourse which has all along continued to subsist between this country and Holland, even during the very height of Bonaparte's anti-commercial fury. At the very moment, however, that this new regulation opens the door to a more intimate connection, Ministers seem to be taking measures to obstruct it. All licenses to trade thither continue to be peremptorily refused, and many of those which had been previously granted by the Board of Trade, have been recently withdrawn: even licenses for the exportation of salt are not now to be obtained.

The Act for prohibiting all commercial intercourse between the United States of America and the kingdoms of Great Britain and France and their dependencies, passed into a law on the 1st March. By this Act, all vessels, being the property of American citizens, are to be allowed to clear out for any foreign port or place, except those above mentioned, on the owners giving bond for the due observance thereof in double the value of the ship and cargo. Heavier restrictions are imposed on vessels owned by foreigners; and the laws which had been previously enacted were, in respect to them, to be considered as remaining in full force and virtue: not even were English vessels to be permitted to clear out for the dominions of England after the 15th March; nor French vessels, for those of France; nor any foreign vessels whatever to take on board a cargo after the commencement of the Act. Every country *nominally* enjoying an independent form of government (other than Great Britain and France) and *not* in the actual possession of either of those powers, is considered open by this law; and all American ships were to be allowed to trade thither accordingly. Holland is classed amongst this number; and Italy, too, which, for the present, has not been decided upon, will in all probability be soon added to the list.

The exemption of Holland from this new interdict of the American legislature, on the ground of her being an independent state, is certainly a curious feature in the Act of non-intercourse; and it affords us a tolerably fair specimen of the *impartiality* which its framers had in view. It would be perfectly idle, however, to set about an argument to prove the abject state of vassalage to which the poor Hollanders are reduced under the dominion of Napoleon; we shall, therefore, merely content ourselves with remarking, that the words "to place all matters relative to navigation on a footing of complete uniformity with the decrees of France," constitute a part of the very preamble to the Dutch commercial decree alluded to in the foregoing part of our report.

It is to us, indeed, a matter of very little consequence, whether or not the ports of Holland and Italy be included amongst the number of free ports, for under our present Orders in Council, no American vessel, but such as may have the good fortune to elude our vigilance, will be permitted to reach their harbours, without her first visiting England, or submitting to the search of British cruisers.

The Supreme Junta of Spain continue to manifest a friendly disposition towards this country. Three decrees in favour of English commerce were issued at Seville on the 28th February. The first declares, that all English goods may be admitted into such of the Spanish ports as are not under the immediate influence of the French, without any restriction; and that they are not to be charged with

with duties exceeding those which were paid before the commencement of the war in 1804. The second decree provides, that all British goods which may have been landed, but which, for want of a market, cannot be sold, may be re-exported on the payment of only 2 per cent. duty. By the third decree, British ships are allowed to convey to the ports of Spain the article of bacallas (dried cod fish), the same duties being payable thereon as were required before the war of 1797.

These regulations are certainly favourable so far as they extend; but we do not imagine that under existing circumstances they are likely to operate much to the advantage of our commercial interests; for we apprehend that very few of our merchants will be disposed to make further consignments to that country until affairs wear a more promising and cheering aspect. We cannot, however, conceal our regret, that a more wise and liberal policy should not, some months ago, have characterised the proceedings of the Supreme Junta, in regard to British traders in their ports; for the time has been, when an intercourse on such terms would have been highly beneficial to both parties: oppressive duties, and unnecessary restraints, are in the end as prejudicial to the revenue as they are hurtful to individuals.

Much inconvenience has been suffered by our West India planters in consequence of the very high prices demanded for white oak staves, occasioned by the long continuance of the American embargo; no less a sum than eighty pounds per thousand having been given for this article: some reduction in its price had, however, taken place when the last accounts came away, in consequence of the expectation that an ample supply would be received from the British colonies in North America soon after the opening of the season. In the meantime, however, to secure the rum crop, several planters in the island of Jamaica had been induced to make trial of two different kinds of wood, the growth of that island, for the purpose of converting it into puncheons; one of which, called the Santa Maria tree, was found to answer every purpose, as it would not only preserve the rum in its pure state, without communicating any disagreeable flavour, but would also be as little subject to leakage as puncheons made from the American white oak. We understand there is a good supply of this wood in the island of Jamaica, and that it will not cost the planter more than 15l. per thousand when split into staves.

The funds have lately experienced a slight depression, which is attributed to the expectation that our Government is about to accommodate the Emperor of Austria with a loan of six millions, for the purpose of enabling him to carry on the expected war against France.

PRICE OF STOCKS.

Bank Stock - - - - -	245 $\frac{1}{2}$ 5 4 $\frac{1}{2}$
3 per Cent. reduced - - - - -	66 $\frac{1}{2}$ 5 3 $\frac{1}{2}$
3 per Cent. Cons. - - - - -	67 $\frac{1}{2}$ 5 3 $\frac{1}{2}$
4 per Cent. - - - - -	81 $\frac{1}{2}$ 2-1 $\frac{1}{2}$
5 per Cent. Navy - - - - -	98 $\frac{1}{2}$ 1 $\frac{1}{2}$
Long Annuities - - - - -	18 $\frac{1}{2}$ 5-16
India Stock - - - - -	184 $\frac{1}{2}$
Ditto Bonds - - - - -	11 13 prem.
Exchequer Bills - - - - -	10 12 prem.
English Lottery Tickets - - - - -	22l. 4s.
Consols for Ac. - - - - -	67 $\frac{1}{2}$ 5 3 $\frac{1}{2}$

The Average Prices of Navigable Canal Shares, Dock Stock, Fire-Office Shares, &c. in APRIL, 1809; at the Office of Mr. Scott, 28, New Bridge-street, London.

The Staffordshire and Worcestershire Canal, 700l. dividing 40l. nett per ann. — Grand Junction, 151l. to 155l. — River Trent, 65l. dividing 7l. per cent. — Monmouthshire, 106l. to 105l. — Ellesmere, 70l. — Kennet and Avon, 23l. to 22l. —

Wills

Wilts and Berks, 27l.—*Ashby*, 19l.—*Thames and Medway*, 77l. with new subscription.—*West India Dock*, 173l. to 174l.—*London Dock*, 120l.—*Commercial Road*, 115l. per cent.—*West Middlesex Water Works*, 9l. 9s. to 10l. 10s. prem.—*Covent Garden Theatre*, new shares, 31l. 10s. premium.—*Globe*, 117l. 10s.—*Albion Assurance shares*, 1l. 10s. per cent. premium.—*Rock Assurance*, 4s. to 2s. 6d. premium.—*London Flour Company*, 6l. 10s. per share.

AGRICULTURAL REPORT FOR APRIL.

The Lent corn is generally got into the ground, and the lands are in good preparation for barley sowing. The crops generally look healthy, but have been checked in their luxuriance by the easterly winds and the cold weather; and the rains have been full enough for cold wet lands, which stand much in need of warm and genial suns. The young grass has been nipped and turned black by the keen and cold winds; yet, should warm weather immediately follow, there is a good prospect of thick bottoms of grass. The severity of the weather, so long continued, has indeed injured all vegetation to a certain degree; but it is hoped the early-blossoming fruit has not been materially hurt.

Sheep feed has fallen very short in many parts, and in some among unimproved and improvident farmers the hunger-rot has made its appearance. Live stock is dear in the country, particularly pigs, which, both fat and lean, are much in request. Beef is dearer than it has been any time this season, and likely to advance still farther next and the following month. The same of mutton, which is at present rather cheaper than beef. If this great consumption and high price be a national advantage, we may always secure it by continuing at war. Camps, barracks, shipping, monopolize so great a part, even of the poultry, that an old hen cannot be purchased in London for the pot under a crown.

Fifty sail of Dutch vessels have arrived, principally laden with seeds, which have affected the seed market. More expected with seeds and corn.

Smithfield. Beef, 6s. to 7s. Mutton, 5s. 6d. to 6s. 6d. Lamb, 67s. to 38s. Veal, 6s. to 7s. 6d. Pork, 6s. to 8s. Bacon, 7s. 6d. Irish do. 5s. 10d. to 6s. 2d.

FROM ANOTHER CORRESPONDENT.

Vegetation has recently received a severe check from the late prevailing cold winds, accompanied with frequent storms of hail, rain, and snow, which on strong cold soils very much retarded the spring sowing till a more favourable season, which the little warm weather we have just had has enabled the farmers to finish; and as a continuance may now be expected, the wheats, clovers, late-sown spring corn, and grass seeds, will soon recover and grow fast, the lands being sufficiently moist.

The meadows and pastures have equally suffered from the severity and backwardness of the spring; and hay growing both scarce and dear, and the want of fodder in many situations, have considerably reduced the prices of lean stock in such places; in more fortunate ones they sell well. Cows and calves are in plenty, and sell reasonable; young fresh horses for the London market are in great request, and obtain high prices; and the pig markets were never known so high as they have recently been, owing to the late completion of a great navy contract; and the constant immense demand for home consumption, have made porkers both scarce and dear. Notwithstanding the scarcity of turnips and green meat, grass lambs have, with spirited management, and at a great expence in supporting the ewes, been sent to Smithfield in tolerable numbers, in good condition, and obtained great prices.

PRICE

PRICE OF GRAIN:

ENGLAND AND WALES.				SCOTLAND.			
		s.	d.			s.	d.
Wheat	- - - -	92	4	- - - -	83	3	
Rye	- - - -	61	8	- - - -	50	4	
Barley	- - - -	46	2	- - - -	39	3	
Oats	- - - -	33	6	- - - -	31	9	
Beans	- - - -	60	9	- - - -	57	7	
Pease	- - - -	57	11	- - - -	53	4	
Oatmeal	- - - -	50	9	- - - -	28	2	
Bigg	- - - -	-	-	- - - -	33	1	

TO CORRESPONDENTS.

The Letter in defence of Mr. Clerk, of Eldin, came too late for insertion in this Number, but shall certainly appear in the next.